WORLD SOCCER

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The *INTERNATIONAL* Magazine

OCTOBER 1974

WOLFF Argentina (left) and RIVA Italy

World SOCCER

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WORLD SOCCER
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The INTERNATIONAL Magazine

Franz Beckenbauer...

The West German captain writes

ALTHOUGH we were victorious in the 1974 World Cup, I remain convinced that our 1972 European Championship squad was a far superior outfit in all departments, particularly up front.

This doesn't mean, of course, that I feel that we didn't deserve to capture the trophy. What concerned me more than anything was the way our football, although still fluid and essentially based on attack, had in many ways stagnated since 1972.

I suppose being the great perfectionist that I am makes me set my sights higher than some of my colleagues. But surely if you don't aim for real perfection, you cannot possibly remain successful for any period of time.

So in essence I feel we were worthy winners, but on the other hand didn't play to our trrue potential.

Obviously Germany winning the World Cup gave me tremendous pride and satisfaction. After all, captaining your country to World Cup glory must be the main aim of every international skipper.

Accusations

Yet, amidst all this success there were also several sour moments, the prime one being the almost constant and often extremely vehement accusations made against me by both Press and public alike that I didn't put in enough work for the side, in other words I was just a lazy passenger.

Having been given this opportunity of answering my critics, I should like to say that even though I'm not one for ducking criticism, I maintain most strongly that the comments made about my performances during the Germany World Cup were totally unjustified.

I accept the fact that on occasions I look as if I'm strolling through a game, but that's my style and I don't intend altering it at this late stage in my career. You see, my football philosophy is this: If you possess enough skill then there is no reason whatsoever why you should rush. I believe, like Bobby Moore, that coolness is what counts not unnecessary running.

Another important thing that should always be remembered about me is that my "strolling" approach enables me time and time again during a match to catch the opposing defence unawares. They see me walking with the ball; I see an opening in their defence, which gives me a heaven-sent chance to attack on my own and play a quick one-two with Gerd Muller for example.

As I've often said I don't object to constructive criticism, but I simply cannot abide adverse comment which isn't true.

Blooding

Now that West Germany are World Champions, we must think seriously of the future—it's no good just resting on our laurels. Frankly our soccer is in a slightly worrying state. The players who won us the Cup for the first time in twenty years could hardly be classified as youngsters. Therefore we must start blooding young players soon if we are to retain both the European and World Championships. I can assure you that in the not too distant future many of the guys who have become almost permanent fixtures in our national squad will be replaced by much younger men.

I think I must be frank and say that in my view we don't have as yet enough international-class young players in the *Bundesliga*. But I remain convinced that the years leading up to the next World Cup Finals in the Argentine will see the emergence of many new young German stars on a par with the guys who did so well for us a few months ago.

As for my own future: People nowadays have an irritating tendency of referring to me as a veteran. I'm still only 29, so I should be fit enough for another World Cup, if I'm selected of course!

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FRONT COVER PICTURE

Brazilian world Cup players Paulo Cesar (foreground) and Francisco Marinho pictured by Peter Robinson.

The hoolig

Brian Glanville on the disease which is spreading throughout English Football

WHAT a beginning to the season! Five Manchester United fans thrown into gaol in Belgium before the Championship had even started, Bremner and Keegan sent off at Wembley to establish the doubtful record of being the first British players expelled in the Stadium's 51 year history.

The menace of the hooligans, of violence on and off the terraces, had left a displeasing taste and a bewildering problem at the end of last season. There had been the invasion of the pitch at Newcastle, during the Cup tie against Nottingham Forest, then Manchester, when City were beating United. There was the barbaric viciousness of the young Tottenham fans, as they roamed Rotterdam before the UEFA Cup Final, seeking whom they might devour; and what they might steal.

Nothing any of our presumed leaders has said has so far made much sense. Lord Westwood's was a cry of despair; but then, as we know, his contribution to the debate over the invasion of St. James' Park, before he became Football League President, was hardly illuminating. Mr. Denis Howell, the Minister of Sport, fresh from his edifying breakfast with the British Lions—how *could* he?—told us that magistrates were not being strict enough.

I myself sought what enlightenment I could from Mr. Peter Terson, the author of the musical play *Zigger Zagger*, which has always seemed to me to make more, and more imaginative, sense about the problem than any direct statement.

Initially it was performed, in 1967, by the admirable National Youth Theatre, but since then it has swept around Europe. Not that Terson himself, the son of a Newcastle joiner, is enamoured of football. "*I hate Playing Bloody Football!*" he wrote to me, in some pain, after we had put him in goal for a practice game down in a Dorset village. "I hate that hard ball when it's wet and heavy; and I hate it when it's dry and shiny. I hate the physical contact with *men*; and the way their eyeballs go when they come dribbling down the pitch; I hate all the *knocks and taps*. (A knock on the knee, an ankle tap, knock it in, tap it forward, give him a tap) I hate all that. And I hate the way it leaves my body, sort of racked and weary. I hate all that shoulder charging; and those bellowed instructions, I even hate the grass and the referee's knees."

This Cardiff City fan came up with his own idea of head-gear when Manchester United visited Ninian Park this season.

Wretched

He did at one time, however, when he was Dramatist in Resident at Stoke, go regularly to watch Stoke City; out of which *Zigger Zagger* sprang. For those unacquainted with it, it is the forlorn story of Harry, a 15-year-old school leaver kicking desperately against the pricks, wretched at the prospect of a life spent dully tending machines. The Tempter to his Everyman (or every D stream victim of a monotonous job) is Zigger, a sprite of the terraces, who lives for the Saturday afternoon drama and punch-up.

What, I asked him, is at the bottom of the present football violence, the brutality of the terraces?

"I don't get the impression that the excitment of the football match generates the excitement that leads to the violence," he replied. "I get the impression that it's a planned campaign from the word go. I think Saturday morning comes and it's the ritual time: here we go. It used to spring from the match. I don't think it does, now. I was at Euston the other day and saw three very minor youths, Manchester United fans.

"They were all dressed up. They were looking for violence before the match, and they were only dwarfs. It was the feeling of somebody who's trying to be drunk and excited before the party started. Before New Year's Eve, somebody's drinking at five in the afternoon. It was all too early, and it was all too well planned."

Were the same motives behind it all, I

an menace

asked? I had seen *Zigger* as exemplifying a kind of Revenge of the D Stream on the society which used and despised them.

"Well," said Terson, "I studied one child when I wrote *Zigger Zagger* at a little school in Stock-on-Trent where I was teaching. But from all observations, I think the kid who was using football as a weapon is following the more intelligent kids who see it as warfare. It's almost the age of chivalry. Combat, with all the gear. Thank God Saturday's here: we'll have a tilt. They're fearless. Now it's all tactics: meeting each other a hundred strong, and that."

I asked him what Zigger himself would be doing now.

"Well, he'd be too old for it, as a start. If I were writing it now, I wouldn't have put anybody as warm and cynical and jolly as that in. It would really be like writing about the I.R.A. It was bloody funny for thirty years, but now it isn't. Something harsh has come out. I'd have to write about somebody hard now, and I think the match would lose importance."

Then why have things got worse, was my next question.

Violence outside Cardiff City's ground after their match with Manchester United.

Outrages

"I would say it was the same thing as makes bomb outrages get worse. There is something that gets harder, and I think it's on that level, really; it's within society. If somebody had told you ten years ago that the I.R.A. would blow people's kneecaps off, you just wouldn't believe it, and that football fans would go on the ferry and tear it apart, then go in someone else's land and be violent, you wouldn't believe it. But obviously there's now a deep seated hardness that takes a lot of getting rid of."

To some extent, he thinks, it comes from "the licence of democracy. We haven't got the discipline of the Communist state or a Fascist State. There is an awful lot of freedom in democracy."

He agreed with me when I said to him that in Fascist and Communist States, the violence is institutionalised. It is built into the system, the frequently used prerogative of the State itself, whether in the form of Solzenhitsyn's Gulag archipelago, or Portugal's former, savage, PIDE police.

"The funny think is," said Terson, "I never notice the change in individual kids. I've been with the Youth Theatre for seven years, and the kids who come down seem exactly the same. The kids themselves are the same, but whether they're looking at the obstacles of life, seeing how hopeless it is, and taking revenge, I don't know.

"My kid is 19, he has a girl friend, and when he thinks of getting a flat, he just can't . . . Life is becoming very, very tough, and this is an expression of it. When I go down to Lymington (where he works as an apprentice boat builder) and see the whole harbour is full of yachts worth £60,000, I would willingly squirt aerosol on them. I think this terrible feeling of hopelessness must toughen kids up."

A mobile police headquarters . . . soon to be a regular feature at British football matches?

Fence

Why, I asked him, did he think the hallowed taboo of the football pitch itself had now been broken? Why had the young fans now thrown off the restraints of generations, who had never needed a fence or a moat to keep them off the ground?

"Perhaps," he said, "it's a subconscious desire to take the centre of the stage. It would be interesting really if you said to a fan club, all right, you give a display. Now, Ladies and Gentlemen, the Manchester United fan club will build the biggest human pyramid ever seen. Perhaps that's what's needed: a ritual in which *they* take the pitch."

For Terson, football is dying. I don't think it is, and suggest to him that in this television-dominated age, it is simply taking new forms, playing before a massive, absent, audience.

"Perhaps the people who *don't* go to watch football," he said, "have left a vacuum for the people who do. These millions of people sitting by the television set were once a moderating influence."

One more sobering thought.

THE NUMBERS GAME

Hungarian News by Leslie Vernon

IT is perfectly fair to say that the Hungarian League season has never before been so keenly anticipated as the current one. After the most strenuous training stints, a mass of friendlies and amidst a welter of reforms, everyone felt that this will be the "make or break" period for the game. To give the teams a "new look," the administrators have introduced the squad members' system which worked so well in the World Cup.

As there are no mid-season transfers in Hungary, it is a practical step, and it makes identification of the players easier. At least, that is the official explanation, but my guess is that by putting, let's say, a number 18 shirt on a full-back and a No. 4 on a forward, the Hungarians are aiming to develop and encourage the "total-football" concept.

As I reported last month in this column, the league programme is being played-off on a twice-weekly basis, and in the first eight days, three full rounds have been completed. In these early skirmishes, the standard of football has been much the same as last term, but one cannot reasonably expect a rapid improvement, and judgement on the experiments must be tempered with patience.

Spectacular

The opening game between Ujpest Dozsa and Raba Eto provided a deluge of goals and some quite spectacular football. The champions played extremely well in the first half, scoring four times against the bemused ex-Dozsa 'keeper, Laszlo Borbely. But the second-half belonged to the visitors from the provinces, and the match ended with an astonishing 5-4 scoreline in favour of Dozsa. Pal Varadi, coach of the lilac-and-whites, said bitterly: "It is impossible to play football with such cocky conceit. I was ashamed of our boys' behaviour in the second half."

Conceit or not, Dozsa are still by far the best team in the country. They collected maximum points from their opening matches and lead the table with six points. Peter Juhasz is playing in the centre of the defence in place of the deposed Harsanyi, and in goal, Szigeti is preferred to Rothermel. Honved are second with five points, and it is already clear that Dr. Karoly Lakat's magic wand is as potent as ever.

This puckish little teacher of geography knows his football, and wherever he goes, Lady Luck follows him obediently. Unfortunately, newly signed Miklos Panesics has sustained a very serious injury, and his absence could damage Honved's performances. Laszlo Branikovits is the most serious Ferencvaros casualty, but full-back Megyesi has also been on the treatment table for quite a while.

The young "Fradi" is functioning well, and their open 4-2-4 football is a great attraction for the fans. They are on four points (following a 1-1 draw with Honved), together with the newly promoted Bekescsaba and Videoton. The former — in their very first season in the top grade — have surprised even themselves with a two-wins-in-four-days start. In front of 15,000 people, they beat M.T.K. 3-1, and then travelled to Budapest where they defeated Vasas 2-1!

Two such illustrious scalps are sure signs that 'Csaba are a good bet to stay up, which is their avowed target for the season. Videoton are the Hungarian Ipswich. A small-town team without stars, but playing a pleasing brisk type of football with a generous helping of the Three Musketeers' spirit — one for all, all for one!

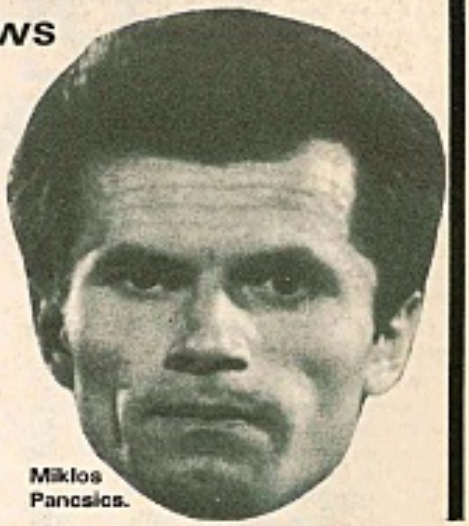
M.T.K.'s early games show that this famous club needs a drastic overhaul. Imre Kovacs, M.T.K.'s former star-player, who won the league with Dozsa twice, is a strict disciplinarian, and apparently, his approach doesn't suit the lazy-bones in the camp.

Kovacs has already dropped a couple of regular first-teamers, but he hasn't got a big enough squad to make wholesale changes. The disastrous start made by Vasas is even more puzzling. Last spring's top team's current record reads: Played 3, win nil, drew nil, lost 3! Sandor Muller, one of their leading lights, was sent off against Zalaegerszeg (1-2), and was subsequently suspended for four games.

Dismal

Still, his absence doesn't explain such a dismal sequence, and coach Illovszky will need all his guile to rebuild the shattered confidence of his players. Members of the national squad are getting ready for the important autumn fixtures — by playing for their clubs!

There are league matches three days before the Austria, Luxembourg and Wales game, and team manager Jozsef Bozsik won't have time to arrange any training matches at all.



Miklos Panesics.

This is an astonishing turn-about by the Hungarians, who used to allow at least a clear week before any international, and there were regular training camp get-togethers during the season.

Well, the proof of the pudding... Supremo of the referees' committee, Istvan Zsolt, has been busy rewriting some of the laws of the game (unofficially, for home consumption only) and has now decided that a tactical foul must be punished by a sending-off. In other words, if a defender deliberately trips, holds, pushes or bodychecks a forward to stop a clear run at goal, the offender must be ordered-off, and he'll be suspended for four matches.

Excellent

BRAVO! An excellent idea, I only wish it was put into the rule-books in other countries as well.

For the statistically-minded, here are the results of the pre-season tournaments and some of the more important friendlies:

"Champions of Champions Cup": Final: Vasas 3, Videoton 1.
Third Place play-off: Csepel 1, Honved 0.
Balaton Cup: Final: Tatabanya 2, Zalaegerszeg 1.
Third Place play-off: Haladas 4, Pecs 2.
Tisza Cup: Final: Bekescsaba 3, Salgotarian 2 (agg.).
Third Place play-off: Diosgyor 9, Egyetertes 5 (agg.).
Friendlies:
Dozsa v Bayern Munich 2-2 (in Spain).
v Red Star Belgrade 3-1 (in Spain).
v Atletico Madrid 0-1 (in Spain).
v Feyenoord 0-1 (in Spain).
Ferencvaros v Telstar 5-0 (H).
v Celta Vigo 2-0 (H).
v Moenchengladbach 2-4 (H).
v Ruch Chorzow 3-4 (in Casablanca).
Honved v Celta Vigo 1-2 (H).
v Telstar 4-0 (H).
v Espanol 1-3 (A).
v Celta Vigo 3-2 (A).
v Cologne 2-2 (in Spain).
Vasas v Duisburg 3-2 (A).
v K. Offenbach 1-1 (A).
Raba Eto v Valencia 1-2 (H).
v Inter Bratislava 3-5 (A).
v Moenchengladbach 1-2 (H).
v Valencia 1-1 (A).
v PSV Eindhoven 0-0 (in Spain).

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SIMPLE THINGS ARE NOT ALWAYS EASY

WHEN John Lyall was appointed team-manager of West Ham many people asked about his background and confessed little knowledge of this very able young man who was Ron Greenwood's chief coach and later his assistant-manager. Having known him for some time I feel it helpful to readers to give a little of his background and some of the thoughts he revealed to me in a recent interview.

Firsty, he is -- years of age, schooled in Essex and was a player with West Ham, being an excellent full-back and occasional half-back until a knee injury ended his playing career. Thereafter he became a very good coach and was kept on the Hammers' staff in that capacity.

Attributes

One of the greatest of Lyall's attributes is his enthusiasm and love for the game and he will spend many long hours discussing football with all and sundry. In this and in many other respects he is like Ron Greenwood which is not surprising as they have worked together harmoniously for so long. Lyall who believes in "pure football" and "clean play" in the same way as Greenwood, nonetheless has strong views of his own on how to coach and how to play.

I asked him what he considered was

Billy Jennings, a recent West Ham signing from Watford, in spectacular action in his debut against Sheffield United.

Ten years ago West Ham were rated among the top teams in Europe. Now there has been a change at the top. World Soccer's Ken Goldman talks to Hammers' John Lyall

the best way to play to which he replied: "To play with simplicity is the only way to play. In fact, simplicity is the art; often to do the simple is hard because of the discipline involved."

I also asked what gave him the most satisfaction as a coach. The answer he gave typifies himself and the West Ham set-up: "Any coach or manager gets most satisfaction when his team makes a number of passes culminating in a shot at goal which scores. We always go for simplicity in training and work at it. Without a high degree of basic skill we feel a team cannot play. If all players have a high degree of skill you should have a good team."

Methods

Knowing West Ham have a tendency to give goals away through their attacking methods I queried whether those methods had any dangers. Again I received an open reply: "If you encourage your team to be an attacking and enterprising unit you must accept that it may break down. If a player makes a mistake while trying to perform what you have invited him to do then you cannot stop him in his tracks and tell him not to make that mistake again, because that will destroy confidence, inhibit the player and stop him performing that skill again."

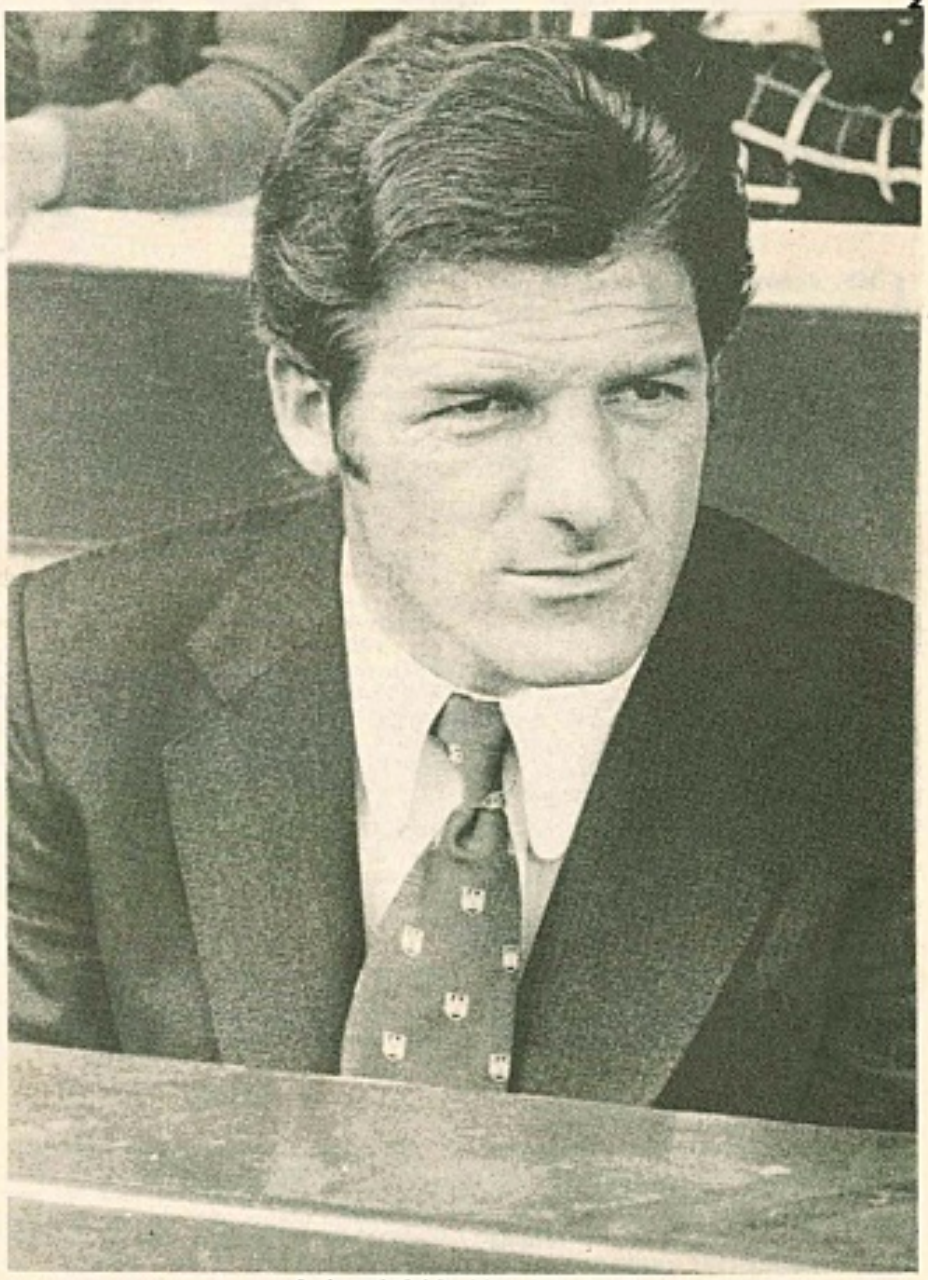
We soon got on to skill and performance.

"We believe a great deal in one touch football because it paints a picture of the situation before the ball arrives and so develops great awareness in players. Bad players have to stop, look up and then play the ball. Good players can play it off first time."

Confessed

John also confessed himself a great admirer of the German style of football and was impressed with many of the first division teams, having been across there to study their play. He also felt that English players should learn to bend balls more when passing and shooting and to generally improve their standard of ball control.

He is a man who should soon prove himself in his new job because his enthusiasm and knowledge are such that it is vital for both West Ham in particular and football in general that he does. I say this without any hesitation because he is a person who deserves to succeed. There are not all that many men in football who gladly as Lyall has done, give up Sunday mornings to carry out many coaching clinics for local coaching associations and turn out in Charity football matches on Sunday afternoons, club commitments and his old injury permitting, or who say that notwithstanding the attitude of many present professionals, that football is still the greatest game and if he could play it again today he would not hesitate to do so and would thoroughly enjoy it.



A thoughtful looking John Lyall.

NEW PLAYERS GIVE BOOST TO THE EAST

THE domestic Hongkong soccer season, probably the most vibrant in any country East of Suez, kicked off last month. Helping to launch it in front of capacity crowds of 30,000 were the biggest influx of overseas professionals since the game changed over from 'sham-amateur' in 1970.

Although there are players from Brazil and Argentina plus several more from other Asian countries by far the largest proportion of foreign players comes from Britain — and, principally, Scotland.

Though only a handful of clubs use overseas professionals, with the rest represented solely by local Chinese players, the rewards can be excellent for the British boys . . . and there is never any shortage of applicants.

Finances

At the present time when stories in the British and overseas press chronicle the sad state of the finances of most English clubs and surveys show the wages earned by the majority of British professionals, a comparison may be interesting to World Soccer readers . . .

The recent Government Commission on British professional football revealed that the majority of players out of 100 interviewed earned between £1,850 and £3,000 per year with only five earning over £9,000.

The average basic wage of an overseas professional in the Hongkong First Division league is $2,400 (approx. £200 per month, or £50 per week). No overseas player, and there are several young players with limited experience behind them, earns less than £30 per week.

On top of that all clubs employing overseas players provide furnished accommodation at no cost to the player. This comes usually in the form of a flat which is shared by three or four unmarried players.

All clubs, naturally, pay win and draw bonuses, usually, for ordinary league matches, between £10 and £15. For the major knockout tournaments — of which there are three in Hongkong — bonuses regularly go as high as £100 or more for a win in the vital concluding rounds.

When one reads of British Third or Fourth division players giving the game away simply because there is more money to be made outside it, it is not really surprising that Hongkong is rapidly becoming something of a mecca for disillusioned British professionals.

There is no longer any doubt that Hongkong clubs can match terms and conditions with Australia and South Africa which, previously, were the only countries to which British players could move to.

Another very important attraction about Hongkong is the fact that football here is fully professional. This has wide appeal for players used to the full-time game and it does not exist in either South Africa or Australia.

However, only a handful of overseas professionals can be employed each year as only four clubs out of the 13 team First Division can be guaranteed each year to employ them.

Solely

Many come and go . . . usually because of differences of opinion with club managements who tend to look for new faces each season in a bid to pull the fans in. Hongkong professional soccer exists solely on gate receipts, or benefactors. There are no fan clubs, no bingo sessions or other fund-raising enterprises. Clubs live or die through their ability to please the fans.

That fact of life, and death, was effectively hammered home at the start of the present season in early September when one of the senior clubs withdrew from the league reducing it to 13 teams.

They had been in the top grade for five seasons and, over their final tw seasons, had employed British profe sionals. But they failed to win a maj trophy and, more importantly, attra the fans.

Hongkong Rangers, founded and ru by Glasgow-born Ian Petrie, was the fir club to bring in British professiona and, surprisingly enough, the three Sco who formed the vanguard of what was t become something approaching a floo are still playing here . . . for another club

Eventually

The most prominent signing made thi season have been former Scottish inter national winger Willie Henderson an his former Ibrox teammate Ale Willoughby. There is little doubt tha other big name players will eventually find their way to this British Colony.

But it is the lesser known names whe have made good here and are reapin rewards they would never have hope to get in Britain.

Starting his fourth professional season in Hongkong is 24-year-old Glasgow-born John McGunnigle. A Scottish youth international, he had short spells with St. Johnstone and Coventry City but only played regularly for Clydebank in the Scottish Second Division. He left them for Australia and then Hongkong.

He says: "I am making more money and having a much more enjoyable style of life than I could have hoped for in Britain. I have no intention of returning to Scotland.

"The hard grounds out here suit me to perfection. With my size and weight (5 ft. 4 in. and 121 lbs.) it was murder on the winter grounds in Britain. That's what finished me there and took me to Australia.

"But Hongkong has given me what I want. A good standard of football, big crowds and a tremendous interest," he added.

Sometime this month McGunnigle will play in front of 30,000 excited fans at the superbly designed Hongkong Government Stadium. In the Scottish Second

Former Scottish youth international John McGunnigle (left) who is now starting his fourth season in Hongkong. On the right is another Scottish player, Andy Cummings, who returned home after less than a season in Hongkong.

Life in Hong Kong by Robin Parke

Division he would be playing in front of 1,000 and earning, probably, about £12 per week.

Not all players have been as readily successful as McGunnigle who has never had any trouble finding a club. He has been in three different clubs in his four seasons here.

There are strange cases. A burly centre-forward who was leading goal-scorer in the Scottish Second Division and held a steady place with a First Division club was hailed as a major signing when he arrived. He lasted about three months and was cruelly laughed off the park on more than one occasion.

Dust

Frequently it is the bigger names who bite the dust and the younger unknowns who find their way into the affections of the fans. And soccer fans here are as quick to idolise successful players as they are in Manchester or London.

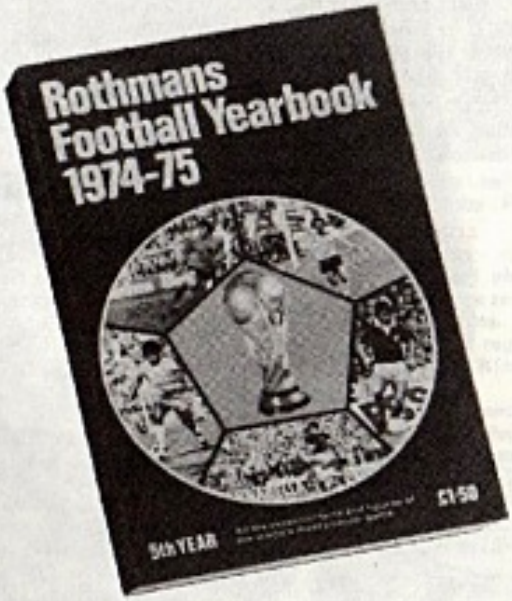
There's a film-star type glamour surrounding the successful British pro. . . . something he was never likely to find at Scunthorpe, Darlington or other points north.

Many of the British players who have come here and stayed have earned their money and their fame. They have added an extra dimension to the Hongkong game and lifted it out of a rut. They have guaranteed that there will always be a place for a good foreign player here.

Which club won the FA Cup and was relegated in the same season?

Which player made 459 consecutive first team appearances for his club?

Rothmans Football Yearbook has the answers.



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FYBIWS

THREE SAD MO
FOR ENGLISH S

Denis Law

IF YOU have an Australian for a friend, who needs an . . . My old mate, Andrew Dettre, who criticised me in our "Readers Forum" over my semi-serious remarks concerning the World Cup, has missed the point of my argument. I did not say that the tournament was "under-organised", and did not complain about the security measures. In fact, some of my best friends are guard dogs!

However, I was driven to despair by the complete lack of information regarding team line-ups. One had to wait until the cameras dutifully scanned the players listening to the national anthems before the 22 names of the participants could be guessed. During a mind-bending hour, the Press were told three times that Roger St. Vil was playing for Haiti, and four times that his older brother Guy was in the team in Roger's place. There was a great shout of relief in the studio, when Guy turned around obligingly to reveal a No. 11 early in the match . . . I feel that one correspondent (not a British one, who might have been accused of "deep-seated bitterness of having missed out on the finals") summed it up admirably.

"The one good thing that emerged from the Finals," he said, "was the certainty that the Germans would not be able to organise a Third World War, they don't even know how to arrange a few football matches".

Old bones

But there is no percentage in chewing over old bones, especially when the fresher ones are just as unappetising. August has been a sad, sad month for English football. That lovable Danny Kaye of the playing fields, Denis Law, has called it a day, and two of my favourite managers have resigned. There must be something basically wrong with our national game, when people like Ron Greenwood and Bill Nicholson feel that they simply cannot cope any longer.

Greenwood, undoubtedly one of the finest coaches in European football, has had a mixed fortune on the transfer market. While he found rare treasures in Mick McGiven and Billy Bonds, was only moderately successful with Tommy Taylor and Graham Paddon, but rather unlucky with Bobby Gould, Ted MacDougall and a few others.

Yet the West Ham Board of Directors

MENTS SOCCER

The changing face of Tottenham. Chairman Sidney Wale talks to new manager Terry Neill, while former manager Billy Nicholson walks by. Ralph Coates is in the background.

have decided to remove Greenwood from the coaching and tactical side, and entrust him with the recruiting of new talent. Unless this was really Ron's choice (I have no personal knowledge of the matter one way or another), it seems a rather curious, illogical step. Some of the ill-feeling inside the West Ham camp was created by a couple of players with the help of the media which is habitually unscrupulously digging for scoops and stories.

One remembers the "Jimmy Hill in the manager's chair" incident, when some totally innocent remarks were distorted and then hit the headlines. When Bobby Ferguson was dropped, he rang a London paper and gave a biased interview to a young reporter. This gentleman, only too glad to take advantage of a "momentarily unbalanced goalkeeper", printed the piece without having the courtesy of first checking with the West Ham manager.

Unfounded

In another instance, Pop Robson got a lot of mileage in the Press out of his completely unfounded grievance that he was asked to play in midfield, and that this would damage his chances of getting a cap. Can one imagine Greenwood telling his top-scorer to stop getting goals?

Was Robson ever remotely considered by Sir Alf as an international prospect? This kind of journalism can cause a great deal of unrest. Greenwood told me once bitterly, that today's paper is tomorrow's fish-and-chips wrapper (or perhaps he used another expression), but it can do untold harm in the dressing room.

This bitterness and disenchantment with the players was also apparent in the case of Bill Nicholson. His remarks were widely quoted, so there is no need to repeat them here. But I feel that the Spurs' manager overstated the effects of the so-called "under-the-counter payments" when players are transferred.

This practice has been tacitly accepted since pro. football was introduced. I guess even Alf Common got a few bob on the side when he became the first footballer to be sold for a four figure fee. To deny its existence, as Derek Dougan attempted to do, is an insult to the public, and shows a remarkable reluctance on the part of the P.F.A. to keep clean its own backyard. But unfortunately, the Professional Footballers Association during these last few years has been more concerned with protecting its members' selfish interests than with the good of the game. (Rigid insistence for the right to appeal against referees' decisions, non-condemnation of the thugs and cheats in their ranks etc.)

Nicholson has been my choice of "Manager of the Year" several times during the last decade—his record, honesty and approach to football is admirable. Yet, if I was a player, I wouldn't like to play for him. "Nick", a perfectionist, is a prisoner of a vision, the vision of the "double-running" team of the early sixties.

Achieve

In his eyes, no other team can achieve that peak of artistry and efficiency. Consequently, he is over-critical of the present-day footballers' performances. Even after notable triumphs—such as winning the UEFA Cup—he would compare the Spurs of today with the legendary heroes of his private vision. Performers—be it on the stage or in the arena—are insecure and vain. They need to be told by the person who matters most, that they are good, even great.

Starved of praise, the Spurs' players have become disgruntled, and have reacted stupidly to quite ordinary events. How else can one explain the transfer requests of such mediocre players as Kinnear, Pratt and Holden.

Or the Martin Chivers' statement that £15,000 per year is not an adequate reward for his sterling services? I cannot do better than to quote Bertie Mee, who has shown a profound understanding of the problem in an excellent interview with Brian James. (Sunday Times, Sept.1, 1974).

"I can well understand why Bill Nick and Ron Greenwood have had enough. You need a strong stomach to accept some of the things that have grown up in football. It is often difficult, and sometimes impossible, to establish a rapport with players today—it is not so much a generation gap, as a totally different view of life altogether.

When Bill and Ron were playing, their rewards were mostly in job satisfaction; that is to say they lived for playing football and almost as an afterthought accepted wages that meant they could live reasonably while they got on with the game. They felt the same when they became coaches and managers."

by LESLIE VERNON

MAS SAGA COMES TO A HEAD!

by
Keir Radnedge

THE Oscar Mas saga came to a head soon after the start of August. Madrid had been full of rumours of players Real might sign from abroad, and it was becoming more and more clear that Mas would be on his way. The fact that he had been given an extended holiday permit and was still in Buenos Aires when Miljan Miljanic's squad made their pre-season bow was an extra hint.

The first name being bandied around as replacement was that of Ralf Edstroem. Espanol Barcelona had been first in with a £400,000 offer to PSV Eindhoven for the Swedish World Cup star, but Real were supposed to be in there as well. Madrid's supporters were delighted: the feeling has been for some time that Real need a spearhead, a leading goalscorer. Fernando Morena having ruled himself out with an anonymous World Cup, Edstroem was clearly in line.

The spanner in the works was the attitude of PSV—Real may have an excellent relationship with Philips, but PSV did not want to let Edstroem go. Well, Ajax hadn't wanted to sell Cruyff last summer, but the Dutch skipper forced matters by insisting that if he couldn't go to Barcelona and play, then he didn't intend to play for anybody.

Ajax really had no option, but reluctantly to agree to the sale. The case of Edstroem was different. The Swede, after all, had been at PSV little more than 18 months, and is happy in Holland. Either way, he was prepared to accept what the clubs decided —not lay down his own demands.

PSV did not want to sell him, so he stays in Holland—at least for the time being. And, thinking back to the Edstroem of the World Cup, I think they have made a wise decision, holding on to their major asset.

Edstroem went to West Germany with a reputation built on his heading ability. But in the games I saw, though he was getting up to the ball, his timing was awry and he was striking it with his nose, his chin, his ears—anything but his forehead.

But it was on the ground that Edstroem impressed, with a remarkable nimbleness for such a tall man, a deft touch of the ball, and a high football intelligence.

So high that Alfredo di Stefano—who should know his centre forwards, after all—rated Edstroem the best player in the finals.

Anyway, even the fact of Edstroem being ruled out did nothing to pull Mas back into the fold, and within another day or two came the official announcement that the tough little Argentinian who was Real's top scorer last term, would be returning to River Plate.

Earnings

Real had paid £100,000 for "Pinino," and wanted a fee of £60,000. River were at first prepared to offer only £20,000, but eventually the two parties settled on £35,000 —with Real guaranteeing Mas's earnings for the next two years under the terms of his contract with Madrid. What it adds up to is virtually £100,000 thrown away, a costly waste even for a club as viable as Real.

Real secretary Agustin Dominguez had originally been toying with the idea of selling Mas off to a French club, but it was the player who scotched this idea.

"Either I play for Real, or I go back to River Plate," he said. So he went back to Buenos Aires—where, safely enrolled, he had some bitter remarks to make about his Madrid experience.

Mas is not the first player to have failed at Chamartin. Agne Simonsson, the great Swedish centre-forward who came after Gunnar Nordhal and before Ove Kindvall, was a much more clamorous failure. But then Simonsson had di Stefano to contend with.

Mas was merely a victim of something much more difficult even—internal politics.

Miguel Munoz had been happy with the signing of Mas, but Luis Molowny, who took over in mid-season from Munoz, had his doubts. Miljan Miljanic had other priorities, and having been told that Netzer would stay by the board, had reluctantly

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Real Madrid captain Zoco waves to the crowds after his last match for the famous Spanish club.

had to agree that Mas was not indispensible. Still, the fact that other (and better) men had failed to settle before him, was little consolation to Mas.

Miljanic, he told the Buenos Aires Press, was a man who "knows very little about football. He threw me out without virtually knowing anything about me.

Fault

"Yet I played 26 games, I scored 11 goals, which made me the team's top scorer last season. How can anyone believe that I failed. If I didn't score more goals, or sometimes didn't seem to be playing well, it was the fault of Netzer—a man who doesn't run, who doesn't help his team mates."

Strong words born more of bitterness than good sense—after all, Netzer had his problems too, especially with injuries.

"The fans liked me," Mas went on. "I scored some really spectacular goals which got them all out of their seats to cheer. Real Madrid had a bad season, certainly, but it wasn't my fault—blame Netzer, among others."

I wouldn't usually be a party to repeating the kind of calumnies which are part and parcel of dressing room talk, but do no-one any good when made public. But I do have some sympathy for Mas, who has suffered a great disappointment.

His banal criticisms of Miljanic, while they certainly won't worry the Yugoslav, illustrate clearly how disillusioned Mas must feel. His big chance has gone. Had he done well at Real, perhaps starred in some European competition, he could have assured his future.

Now he is back in Buenos Aires as a has-been, and no benevolently rich European club will feel any wish to give him a second chance. If Miljanic doesn't know Mas does Mas know Miljanic?

Every manager has his critics. At the World Cup I was among those who thought that Miljanic, by making too many tactical changes, ruined Yugoslavia's chance of reaching the last four. But then, Miljanic was under pressure of a committee of coaches (including new Valencia boss Milovan Ciric) and might not have been able to rule the roost as he would have wished.

There is no doubt that Real's surprise signing of the lanky Argentinian Roberto Martinez, from Espanol, was on Miljanic's advice. Miljanic had been impressed by Martinez during the Spain-Yugoslavia World Cup qualifying matches, though many Madrid fans have their doubts.

Signing

And, of course, many Madrid fans have their doubts about the signing of Paul Breitner.

Miljanic was well aware of the demand for a goalscorer, but his judgment, based on the advice of Molowny and his new No 2, Antonio Ruiz, was that Madrid's basic weakness was in providing the chances.

Santillana is a highly promising centre-forward, though some unfortunate injuries have wreaked havoc with his confidence. And with Pirri moving back to take over as sweeper, Miljanic felt unhappy about the void in midfield.

Thus, Real have paid over £400,000 for Breitner—a surprise signing only for those people who didn't realise the antipathy existing in the Bayern Munich ranks.

Breitner and Bayern president Wilhelm Neudecker have had their differences for some time—Breitner holds strong left-wing political views, while Neudecker is a wealthy industrialist. That didn't help.

Completion

When Bayern signed Jupp Kapellmann, Breitner's reaction was that the club was wasting its money. Yet ironically, when the Breitner deal was near completion, it was Kapellmann on whom Bayern coach Udo Lattek called to play in Breitner's place.

Earlier, after the European Cup final, Breitner was conspicuous by his absence at the celebrations.

"Why should I wish to celebrate with that - - - team?" he asked, using a somewhat uncomplimentary adjective in between "that" and "team".

Breitner, of course, will play in midfield for Real, who have already added Spanish international left back Uria (from Real Sociedad de San Sebastian) to their ranks this summer.

It's going to be an interesting season . . .

DEFEAT A LUCKY OMEN?

Jakob Kuhn, FC Zurich and Swiss captain.

Focus on F.C. Zurich by Jack Rollin

ZURICH'S first defeat of the season was sustained against Sion who were the only team to beat them in 1973-74. It could still prove a good omen for the Swiss champions however who had a runaway success in the League last season in recording their sixth title.

But the club has never really been as famous as their neighbours Grasshoppers, although they have had their moments, particularly in European competition.

In 1963-64 season they became the first Swiss side to reach the semi-finals of a major European competition and in their first season in it, too. After beating Dundalk, Galatasaray and PSV Eindhoven they met Real Madrid for a place in the final but lost 2-1 at home and 6-0 away.

Yet a year previously nobody in Switzerland would have given them any chance of even getting into the European Cup because they lost their opening League game of their championship season 9-1 to Lausanne!

Ventures

But in subsequent ventures into the European Cup, Zurich have fared less well, losing in 1966-67 at the first time of asking to eventual winners Celtic and in 1968-69 going out surprisingly to the Danish club Akademisk Copenhagen.

The previous season 1967-68 they had done better in the Fairs Cup beating Barcelona, Nottingham Forest and Sporting Lisbon, however, Dundee eventually knocked them out and another Scottish club Kilmarnock accounted for them quickly in the 1969-70 version of the same competition.

In the Cup Winners Cup Zurich beat Akureyi of Iceland in the 1970-71 tournament but then lost to FC Bruges and in 1972-73 suffered the indignity of going out to Wrexham. In 1973-74 they beat Anderlecht and Malmo before Sporting Lisbon gained revenge for their previous Fairs Cup reverse.

Founded in 1896 Zurich won their first Swiss League championship in 1902 but did not repeat their success until 1924. And it was nearly 40 years before they managed to do it again, when they won the 1963 title.

But before 1958 they had had three spells in the Second Division and only the 1960s have brought them the stability that has continued. In 1966 they achieved a League and Cup double, and won the League again in 1968 and 1974. Their last three Cup successes occurred in 1970, 1972 and 1973.

The transfer of ace goalscorer Fritz Kunzli who was the leading scorer in Switzerland for three seasons was a blow but last season Daniel Jeandupeux topped the charts with 22 and appears to have solved the problem.

His twin striker Ilija Katic a Yugoslavian weighed in the 16 goals and at 29 is four years older than Jeandupeux.

However the club's most experienced player is Kobi Kuhn a 31 year old midfield general who is the captain of the club and also now skippers the national team. Kuhn won his 54th cap against West Germany recently, and was the Swiss player who most impressed Sir Alf Ramsey when they drew at Wembley a couple of years ago.

Against the Germans there were several other Zurich players on duty, namely left back Pirmin Stierli a 27 year old with 15 caps, midfield player Rene Botteron (20) with two caps, substitute Ernst Rutschmann (26) who came on as substitute for his fifth game and Jeandupeux winning his 19th honour for Switzerland.

Zurich's trainer is Timo Konietzka a German who played in his native country before coming to Switzerland some years ago as a player-coach. He has been in charge of the club since 1971.

Zurich normally play a 4-4-2 formation which can be adapted when necessary to 4-3-3. In midfield the club also has an experienced player in Rosario Martinelli (31) who with Kuhn are survivors from Zurich's first venture into Europe back in 1963-64.

Botteron and Rutschmann usually complete the middle line though Rutschmann can also drop back in the middle of the back four when necessary.

In the back four Max Heer (30) usually plays on the right flank with Hilmar Zigerlig (28) in the centre and Renzo Blonda (30) acting as sweeper, Stierli completing the line.

Karl Grob (28) is the first choice goalkeeper who has also played for his country and the other goalkeepers on the club's staff are Rudolf Hauser (21) and newly signed Jean-Louis Schafer (19) from Trimbach.

Captures

Zurich made several other captures in the summer adding defenders Rino Kuhn (21), Peter Hafner (18) both from the juniors, Werner Stohler (23) an experienced player from Basel; midfield players Pietro Hartmann (17) from Schieren, Roger Illy (20) and Giuseppe Martignoli (20) both from the juniors; forwards Fredy Strasser (20) from Wiedikon, Horst Thoma (16) from Niederurnen, Rolf Von Allmen (17) from Woolishofen and Silvio Galbucci (19) from Blue Stars.

The remaining players on the staff are defenders Walter Iselin (21) a full back, Pippo Sanfilippo (19) a centre back, utility players Peter Marti (22) and Pius Senn (24) and striker Erwin Schweizer (22).

Zurich still only ranked eighth in the overall list of Swiss clubs achievements in the First Division by the end of last season. This was based on the League since 1933. Zurich had competed in 32 seasons and had played 836 matches, winning 376, drawn 159 and lost 301, scoring 1,749 and conceding 1,490 goals for 911 points.

Meteoric rise by United's big Jim

by Eric Thornton

IF MANCHESTER United defy the odds and regain that lost spot in the top circle at the first time of asking, next May, there will have to be a new portrait gallery lining the walls of the board-room and elsewhere.

Studies of oldtimers such as Frank Barson, Joe Spence, Johnny Carey, Jimmy Delaney, Jack Crompton, Jack Rowley and Charlie Mitten, together with those of Albert Quixall, Nobby Stiles, Tommy Taylor, George Best, Bobby Charlton and Denis Law may have to make room for others—the stars of to-day.

In that event, who will be the ace in the new pack? It could be Willie Morgan. Maybe Stuart Pearson, Martin Buchan, or Brian Greenhoff. Or big Jim Holton, the centre-half who has reached giant's stature in the game in no time at all.

I'm offering him to you as a likely choice, though many may disagree, and support the claims of others. I believe, however, that every Scot worthy of ancestry will back that selection. Just as they hailed him throughout the recent World Cup series.

That was the time when the fans, and the scribes, and the officials, and, yes, the players, too, were all equally amazed at the sudden and outstanding popularity of a comparative unknown.

Headlines

But let's regress for a moment. Let's recall that it is little more than 18 months ago since this 22-year-old toughie was battling for an average weekly pay packet with Shrewsbury Town, in the Third Division, and not making the headlines.

Everything improved once United were alerted down the grapevine. They called for assessment, liked what they saw, and quickly agreed an immediate transfer fee of £80,000, plus a further £15,000 after winning full Scottish caps.

That was good business for the Gay Meadow folk who had earlier grabbed him on a free transfer from West Bromwich. Good for the boy, too, because the new trail led to Munich, and personal glory.

Grooming

Of course, it might never have been that way but for dear old Harry Gregg restoring lost faith after Albion had suggested there was no soccer future. And Tommy Docherty grooming him for a cap, and Willie Ormond applying the final touch of encouragement.

Anyhow, he felt great on reaching the summit earlier this year. It was tremendous fighting for his country. It was even more terrific hearing the Scottish fans chanting their own special refrain at the games, and wherever else they gathered: "Six for two, eyes of blue, big Jim Holton is after you . . ."

Yet even if Holton does not take the prime award, there will be general rejoicing in the dressing room. Because the cash that matters will be handed around in generous shares to everyone playing a part in lifting the old club back into the First Division.

The former European champions, and regular Cup and League winners over successive decades, are so desperate to quit the lower grading without any further loss of time that salaries have been upped fantastically, and the first team will, additionally, also split £30,000 on achieving the promotion goal.

That's not all. Every player is already pocketing £40 per point per match, and, all told, the regular seniors could be on more than £15,000 this winter, which is pretty staggering, even in these inflationary days.

These new built-in incentives have been carefully conceived and planned as part of a really tremendous drive to secure a more respectable position in the soccer world for this most successful of all post-war outfits, and once again provide the proof to disbelievers that modern soccer is very big business.

Optimistic

Docherty the manager, and Busby the director, firmly believe United will make it, and there is certainly a very optimistic atmosphere inside the ground as everybody approaches the turn of the year—the period when the heavier pitches often take a heavy toll, and title chances brighten or unaccountably fade.

These two men who know what they're talking about, reckon they've got the boys capable of picking up the necessary points in the second-half of the campaign, and are backing them to accomplish it.

If only disappointments materialise, I shall expect departure during the summer. Another batch to add to the 35 there have been since The Doc took charge, became the fourth boss in as many years, and immediately set about remoulding the whole playing strength with liberal aid from the cheque book.

Nothing will shake his faith in the future and the talents of those now assembled at Old Trafford, though I've no doubt this astute yet pleasant veteran will never forget to remember that old Scottish adage about the best laid schemes . . .

Jim Holton.

ARTHUR ROTMIL spotlights one of

CZECHO

LACK R

THE cheers have hardly died down and the proverbial dust has not quite settled after the excitements of the World Cup series, when another major international competition has already begun this season: The European Championship, which is rapidly gaining in importance embracing as it does the elite of the national teams. The fact that three European sides—West Germany, Holland and Poland—finished in that order in the World Cup, merely confirmed the widely accepted belief that European, and specifically Continental football, now rules the world.

The European Championship, in which 32 countries have been equally divided into eight groups, starts on a league basis. In each section the teams play each other home and away and the group winners advance into the quarter-finals. These are played off as two-legged ties, but under the knock-out system, thus leaving the last four nations. The organising committee of UEFA then selects one of those countries as a venue for the "sudden death" semi-finals and the final.

It will be remembered that two years ago the current world champions West Germany won the last European title in Belgium by beating Russia in the final. In the present tournament a number of countries who have failed to qualify for the World Cup final series will get a chance to redeem themselves.

Into this category fall all the teams in Group One comprising England, Czechoslovakia, Portugal and Cyprus. On October 30, England will first entertain the Czechs at Wembley and on November 20 the Portuguese are the next visitors there.

For England's new manager Don Revie the coming battles will provide a stern test, but he is not exactly a novice in international football. Under his management Leeds have played 79 Cup ties in the three competitions all over Europe. Revie is fortunate, in as much as both England's opening games in this group are staged at home and Wembley has so far not been a happy hunting ground for either the Czechs or the Portuguese. The fourth contenders in this section, Cyprus, should not worry any of the other fancied rivals, if indeed they can play at all, in view of the unhappy events in that tragic island.

Czechoslovakia have only once beaten England in six previous encounters and that was way back in 1934, when these countries met in Prague for the first time. Their recent clashes were closely fought, with England drawing 1-1, thanks to a last minute goal by Clarke, in May 1973 in Prague. Before that, England were extremely lucky to win by 1-0 at Guadalajara, in the Mexico World Cup, thanks to a more than dubious penalty award. The Czech midfield player Kuna having tackled Bell slipped and fell on the ball in the area, but the French referee Machin "saw" a handball! Even the neutral crowd booed England till the end of the match.

It is however worth noting, that after England won the World Cup in 1966, their first subsequent opponents were Czechoslovakia and they managed to draw 0-0 at Wembley!

Martin Dobson, signed by Everton this season for £300,000. Will be part of Don Revie's planning for England's assault on the European Championship.

Practices

The set up in Czech football since the war has followed the pattern established in other Eastern European states. There is of course no professional soccer practised in Czechoslovakia, but on the other hand the players, in common with other sportsmen, can benefit socially and to some extent materially even in that egalitarian Socialist society.

The financial status of practically all major clubs is to some degree guaranteed by local authorities or industrial sources. Every club in Czechoslovakia, for instance, has the backing of either big factories, universities, military organisations or government departments. One great advantage of this structural set-up lies in the fact, that the clubs need not worry about the engagement of first class coaches.

The clubs can all afford a fully qualified coach and these are found in abundance here, simply because by their standards they are well paid. And since they are not employed full time, the coaches can earn extra money from their basic profession!

England's championship opponents

SLOVAKIA REAL CLASS

There are three different diplomas a Czech coach can obtain in that country. A certificate of the 3rd class requires a course of just one week's duration. The 2nd class diploma is issued after 4-6 weeks study, whilst a 1st class coach will have trained for at least four years!

In addition, the holders of these diplomas must have some practical experience to show for, as well. It is logical to assume, that every club is looking for a manager with the highest qualifications. What is worth noting, however, is the fact that even junior and school teams here can boast of coaches with the A-grade certificate.

Target

Czech football can look back on 70 years of organised existence. During the celebrations discussions on the future took place and the next target was confirmed: Within the coming couple of seasons, every school team will have a coach with at least a B-certificate of proficiency. It is accepted here, that the most important period in the formative years of a soccer playing youngster falls between 11 and 15 years of age. At this age the dormant talent is awakened, the foundation to his career laid and from then onwards developed.

Small wonder that the most promising juniors are being trained all the year round. Apart from the friendly or championship matches, they practice four to five times a week. Although in most Eastern European countries football is not allowed in schools (!), the Czechs have changed the appropriate customs some time ago.

Nowadays the soccer coaches work in conjunction with the physical education teachers. But if the academic work of the budding football star drops below average, then the head master is empowered to stop him playing the game until he shows improvement in studies.

Of course, the coaches are not just working out of pure sporting enthusiasm. They are well rewarded and there is proof that their instruction is an investment for the future. The best 18-year-olds are physically, technically and tactically so well prepared here, that they can be integrated into the League sides without much problem.

By way of an example, in 1967 four juniors were transferred from a small club, Red Star Bratislava, and just a few weeks later the brothers Jan and Jozef Capkovic, Luza and Hamar played in the First Division. For the modest club it was fine business to collect handsome sums for their home grown "product".

Great attention is paid in Czechoslovakia to the UEFA-Youth tournament. The youngsters are kept together at least a year before being selected for the national side. They regularly visit training camps (during school holidays) and have to pass many exams. In most cases the juniors play later in the First or Second Division. Out of the national youth side which took part in the 1966 UEFA series, no fewer than 10 men played, or are still engaged with First Division clubs.

These junior selections invariably produce new discoveries. In recent years such famous internationals emerged from the youth side: Adamec, Jokl, Jurkanin, Kuna, Pivarnik, Szikora, Pollak, Capkovic Jan and Jozef.

At the top of the structure of Czech football are the two top Divisions each comprising 16 clubs. Below there are, according to geographical considerations, three groups of the Third Division and six so called divisional sections. Further there exist ten regions, each carrying out their own championship competition. And finally they have four classes divided into 1A and 1B, plus class II, III and IV.

The juniors too are divided into different categories. Juniors are classed between the age 16-18. The elite plays in five divisions of the Junior League and the winners fight for the national championship. The remaining youth football is organised on a regional basis, with each producing their own champion. Further to this there are also classes named 1A, 1B, II and III. For schoolboys aged 11 to 15 they have separate championships in each district.

It will be seen that Czech football is based on solid foundations. The clubs should certainly reap the benefit of the splendid work at ground level, apparently so well organised here. Yet, there is some danger of over-coaching, of laying too much emphasis on theory, as clearly is the case today in England. Football is largely a game of flair and instinct. The world's greatest players like Pele, Di Stefano, Puskas, Beckenbauer or Cruyff, were not produced by coaching schemes, nor did they spring from swotting over textbooks.

These men were born with natural ability which cannot be taught. The Czechs will continue to turn "working class" footballers into "middle class" players. But to find the aristocrats, the real personalities, they will need more than an army of coaches.

The Manchester United players, led by goalkeeper Alex Stepney, recently held a get-together between fans and players at Old Trafford to try and solve the crowd hooliganism which is giving the Lancashire club so much trouble. It was a step in the right direction and, hopefully, one that may have some effect.

Greiss, Eigenstiller and Walzer of Austria and James of Wales during the Austria v. Wales European Championship clash.

AUSTRIANS START

THE new ten club Bundesliga got off to a promising start with aggregated attendances of 40,000 for the five matches played, an average of 8,000. This compares with 5,000 on average for the whole of last season.

National team selector Leopold Stastny has said of it: "We hope that this reformation of the Austrian game will help to solve the crisis which has affected football here for several years. We have not qualified for the World Cup since 1958 and we do not have sufficient players of class for 17 clubs in the First Division. We hope that the new league will prove beneficial to the spectators and achieve our aims."

by Jack Rollin

Last season's champions VOEST Linz could start no better than a 0-0 draw away to Austria Salzburg and with five matches played found themselves on the bottom of the table.

Top of the League are Austria/WAC the old formation of FK Austria and Wiener AC. They are one of only two clubs left from the capital Vienna in the new set-up. The other is Rapid Vienna. The rest of the clubs are all provincial and even Linz have two teams in it.

Austria despite the absence of seven leading players managed to beat Wales 2-1 in the opening European Championship match after being one goal down in the first half. Goals after the interval by Hans Krankl the Rapid wonder boy and Willy Kreuz the Dutch based striker saw them through safely.

News from Greece

OLYMPIAKOS played two friendlies, one in Italy against Juventus, another in Holland against Twente Enschede, and lost both by the odd goal.

They will be searching to find a replacement for Yves Triantafilos their leading scorer who was transferred in the summer to a French club.

Meanwhile their eternal rivals Panathinaikos have dispensed with the services of their manager Ferenc Puskas, though it was not altogether a surprise that they parted company.

Luxembourg defeated

THE problems of the national team continue with the latest reverse 5-0 at the hands of an experimental West German "B" team. Despite the presence of many of the foreign exiles like Braun, Di Dominico (both Metz, France), Zuang (Lyon), Philipp (Standard Liege), and Pilot (Antwerp).

In the first half Luxembourg held on and prevented the Germans from scoring but in the second half Reimann immediately started the goal rush and after that it was virtually a one horse race.

Manager Gilbert Legrand will doubtless struggle on trying to find something of a combination which will attempt to provide one or two shocks, but as ever he faces an uphill task.

News from France by ANDRE DUCLOS

TRIP TO BELGIUM IS NOT HOPELESS

AT LEAST we have Stefan Kovacs for another season! That is a thought to encourage our international team as it faces its forbidding autumn programme in the European Championship, a programme which could mean make or break for its chances. It was a cruel stroke of fortune which faced us with such a hard, gruelling away game, at the start. On October 12 we play Belgium away; on November 16 we are at home, but against the powerful East German team.

Kovacs, as you will know, was nearly lost to us, the Rumanian Football Federation being once more up to its familiar odd tricks. It may be recalled that before Kovacs came to us, at the start of last season, it had been widely put about that he would be leaving his job as manager of Ajax, because Rumania wanted him home to resume charge of their national team. But it didn't happen. Kovacs left Ajax, indeed, but stayed in Europe; and I would say that Ajax and Rumania's loss was France's gain.

I do not think the trip to Belgium is in any sense a hopeless one. True, Belgium's record over the past few years has been infinitely better than our own. Indeed, they are extremely unlucky not to go to West Germany for the World Cup, twice holding the Dutch to a 0-0 draw, but going out because the Dutch had scored more goals in their other matches. Belgium, as we know, have plenty of drive, plenty of flair, can count on the massive experience of Van Himst, the prowess of Piot in goal—he may have had the odd poor international game this year, but what keeper doesn't?

Superiors

This, however, is a traditional local derby, which means that the French team goes into the lists without the trace of a complex. Traditionally, again, they have proved themselves the equals of the Belgians, sometimes their superiors, and there is nothing in the present Belgian team to make it a hopeless quest. A good result there, and who knows, perhaps we shall have the morale to do well against the East Germans.

The point is, which East Germans? As you may know, the DDR have a kind of Jekyll and Hyde personality. Against England, when their goalposts were virtually their best players in Leipzig, keeping out a rain of shots, they played an attacking midfield and were almost recklessly adventurous. But by the time it came to the clincher in Hamburg against West Germany, they were playing solid *catenaccio* with only a couple of men up the front. It got them, as you may know, a 1-0 win with Sparwasser's spectacular late goal.

The East Germans have many of the qualities which Stefan Kovacs is trying to din into French players. Not that they are exponents of Total Football; they are some way away from that goal, still. But they are immensely fit, run and run until most ordinary footballers would have dropped, and clearly have the application to training which Kovacs would like to see among French players.

What they do not have, and what we still, I think, have, here and there, is flair. There is no player in the East German team with the delicate technique, the ability to do the unexpected, of a Sergie Chiesa, a Fleury Di Nallo; let alone a Raymond Kopa! That is why, although I think it will be awfully hard to beat them, even to hold them to a draw—for I believe they will come in their counter attacking guise—I do not believe that this cause is quite lost, either. Besides, Kovacs, an East European coach himself, knows the East Germans well, and is the perfect man to plan our tactics.

Salesman

Have Olympique Marsilles overreached themselves with Paulo Cesar? Only time will tell; four years of it, if the black Brazilian from Flamengo serves out the whole of his contract. There are still those who think that the Marseilles President, M. Mirac, was taken for something of a ride by the slick Brazilian agent, Elias Zakour, in Frankfurt.

It was on the very day that the World Cup opened, with the match between Brazil and Yugoslavia, that Zakour—right hand man to Havelange in his FIFA Presidential campaign—closed the deal over Paulo Cesar. He was also trying to sell Marseilles no less a forward than Jairzinho, on the plausible grounds (rather like a salesman of song birds) that Paulo Cesar might pine away, without another Brazilian to keep him company.

Zakour insists he takes only four per cent on his many deals; the sceptical insist that it is 10 per cent. Be that as it may, there were rich pickings for him if the figures one hears about Paulo Cesar were true; even if he didn't quite swing the Jairzinho deal. And he must be very pleased indeed, as must the player himself, that the deal went through *before* a World Cup in which Paulo Cesar Lima was a perambulating (I choose the word carefully) disaster.

It is said that Marseilles had to pay no less than $650,000 to Flamengo, and another $200,000 to Paulo Cesar himself, for his four year contract. All of it, mark you this, in advance. Can you wonder that Paulo Cesar is under the microscope in France?

By comparison, the man Marseilles have just sold to Red Star, the man who never did play a World Cup although he should have done, cost peanuts. I am referring to that powerful right winger, Roger Magnusson. He would have represented Sweden in the 1970 World Cup in Mexico, had not Marseilles demanded so much money to allow him to go. But then anti-climax and disappointment have been the keynotes of Magnusson's career.

Luxury

It may be recalled that he was bought from Atvidaberg by Juventus at a time when they couldn't use him (a foreigner) in the Italian Championship. So he was lent first to Cologne, then to Marseilles, with a season in between when he was in Turin but could play only European Cup matches; a luxury player, indeed.

Magnusson says he will always remember Marseilles, and his successes with them in Championship and Cup, as his best years, but he seems happy to come to Saint Ouen. As he says himself, it takes time for him to fit into a team. Let the public be patient.

Eleven years of the Bundesliga

by Keir Radnedge

IN 1963 came the first step which reached a climax this year when West German teams won the World Cup and the European Champions Cup. That first step was the setting up of the Bundesliga—the first division, after years of finding the champion on a national system of play-offs between the regional champions.

If it seemed remarkably late development at the time, it is all the more interesting now to speculate on what might have happened had such a first division been brought into existence, say, ten years earlier.

What might West German club teams have achieved in the late 1950s and early 1960s with a backing of professional soccer discipline? Speculation is interesting, but in the end pointless. What is far more interesting is to look back over the 11 years of the Bundesliga and see just how the power centres have changed.

In Britain in the last couple of years some great names have taken a tumble—Manchester United being the outstanding example, though at least United, unlike Racing Club de Paris, in France, haven't been forced out of professional sport.

The *Bundesliga* started with these clubs: Köln, MSV Duisburg, Eintracht Frankfurt, Borussia Dortmund, VfB Stuttgart, Hamburger SV, 1860 München, Schalke 04, Nürnberg, Werder Bremen, Eintracht Braunschweig, Kaiserlautern, Karlsruhe, Hertha Berlin, Preussen Münster, and Saarbrücken.

That was also the order in which they finished, and Preussen Münster and Saarbrücken haven't been back since.

Köln — Wolfgang Overath played right at the start of the *Bundesliga*—were top dogs then, and have been roundabout ever since, even if their international duties have been restricted in the main to the Fairs/UEFA Cups.

Eintracht Frankfurt have held their place, though they, like Hamburger SV, have gone through more than one season extremely worried by the threat of relegation.

TSV 1860 München reached the Cup-winners' Cup Final in 1965, and Borussia Dortmund actually won the trophy the following year, beating holders West Ham in the semi-final on the way to a dramatic victory over Liverpool in the final.

Operation

But, of course, the names which have really put West German club football on the map are notable for their absence from that original list: Bayern Munich, and Borussia Moenchengladbach (*Not* Munchen Gladbach or any other peculiarities which some of my colleagues and an overwhelming number of compositors seem to prefer).

It was not until the *Bundesliga* had been in operation two years that Bayern and Moenchengladbach—how appropriately—made their entry together. Bayern indeed, finished third in 1965-6, a mere three points behind their neighbours, 1860, who were champions, though Moenchengladbach had to struggle to stay clear of relegation.

Now there is only one club who have won more points in the history of the *Bundesliga* than Bayern—Köln: 435 to 421, and who is prepared to bet that the club of Franz Beckenbauer will not soon overhaul them? And remember—Bayern have played 60 games fewer!

But in all of this, though it is exciting to see a club come through so strongly, it is always regrettable to see progress cast off some names which have always seemed part and parcel of the scene. Borussia Dortmund and 1st FC Nurnberg are the two clubs I am referring to in this category.

Borussia Dortmund took part in the second European Champions' Cup competition, albeit going out 2-3, 0-0 to Manchester United in the second round. And they were there again in 1957-8, before crashing 1-1, 1-4 to finalists Milan in the quarter finals.

Nurnberg may not have achieved much in European competition, but they won the old German Championship six times, and have won the West German title on three occasions. In 1962 they reached the quarter finals of the Champions' Cup before being hammered 3-1, 0-6 by Benfica, and the following year it was only Atletico Madrid, in the semi-finals of the Cup-winners' Cup, who put an end to another impressive Cup run. And now both Nurnberg and Borussia Dortmund are out of the top flight of West German soccer.

Until this year the penalty of being out of the *Bundesliga* was frightening—relegation meant instant return to the part-time penury of the regional leagues.

But now, all that has changed. After years of humming and ha-ing, the West Germans have a second division—albeit split into north and south zones. Nurnberg are in the south of course, Borussia Dortmund in the north.

And perhaps this upgrading of the secondary competition will give these clubs a new impetus to win back the places their tradition would seem to deserve.

Opponents

Not that they are the oldest clubs in the second division. Dortmund were founded in 1909, Nurnberg in 1900. But in the southern division another famous name, TSV 1860 Munchen, were founded (obviously) in 1860. Stuttgarter Kickers in 1899, VfR Mannheim in 1896, Karlsruhe in 1894, and VfR Heilbronn in 1896.

In the north Hannover were founded in 1896, VfL Osnabruck in 1899, Wacker Berlin in 1904, Preussen Munster in 1906, Rot-Weiss Oberhausen in 1904, Alemania Aachen in 1900 and Schwarz-Weiss Essen in 1881!

But it was Borussia Dortmund who were engaged in what, to me, seemed the saddest pre-season warm-up match of them all. Their opponents?—Aston Villa.

BUNDESLIGA RECORD

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Koln	366	172	91	103	709	527	435
Bayern Munich	306	179	63	64	713	367	421
Eint. Frankfurt	356	155	83	128	634	563	393
Werder Bremen	366	141	96	129	599	550	378
Bor. MG	306	148	77	81	670	425	373
VfB Stuttgart	366	140	83	243	598	589	363
MSV Duisburg	366	124	113	129	527	525	361
Schalke 04	366	142	76	148	534	577	360
Hamburger SV	366	130	96	140	591	620	356
Kaiserlautern	366	128	90	148	553	645	346
Eint. B'schweig	332	119	90	123	427	447	328
Bor. D'm nd	298	116	69	113	533	505	301
Hannover	336	106	85	145	497	552	297
Hertha Berlin	264	100	67	97	399	429	267
1860 Munchen	230	97	55	78	416	341	249
Nurnberg	196	76	58	62	302	279	210
Fort. D'dorf	136	50	38	48	207	211	138
Kickers O'bach	136	44	33	59	208	246	121
Karlsruhe	162	43	34	85	210	320	120
Rot-W.Essen	136	31	48	57	180	245	110
R-W Oberhausen	136	36	31	69	182	281	103
VfL Bochum	102	34	27	41	154	194	95
Al. Aachen	102	34	21	47	140	200	89
Bor. N'Kirchen	98	25	18	55	109	223	68
Wuppertaler	68	23	19	26	104	114	65
Arm. Bielefeld	68	18	12	38	73	128	48
Fortuna Koln	34	8	9	17	46	79	25
Pr. Munster	30	7	9	14	34	52	23
Saarbrucken	30	6	5	19	44	72	17
Tasmania Berlin	34	2	4	28	15	108	8

Piet Keizer recalls some unhappy incidents in European Cup matches. Here's a happier moment as scorer Johnny Rep and Horst Blankenburg embrace after the only goal against Juventus in the 1973 final. Keizer is number 11.

ENTERTAINMENT MUST COME FIRST

says PIET KEIZER (Ajax)

UNLIKE English First Division football, Dutch soccer isn't basically tough at all. Of course I've had my fair share of bumps and bruises, and I'll certainly never forget for as long as I live the local "derby" between Ajax and DWS Amsterdam, (as they were then called), back in 1964.

If my memory serves me right I leapt for a high ball with the DWS back-four man Pijlman, and to put it mildly, we quite accidentally crashed heads. In fact it was reported later in the Press that the sound of the crack was heard all round the ground. "Like cracking a walnut," was how one journalist referred to it at the time.

I spent one month in hospital and you can all imagine how depressed I became. It was many months before the specialists allowed me to train again. But I was a lucky guy, because everyone was so kind to me, particularly the-then Ajax manager, the Englishman Vic Buckingham.

However, even though at one time my condition was serious, in fact critical, I eventually returned to the job of playing soccer, although I had to literally start from square one—you know, light training, body-building excercises and the like. It was, I can assure you like living through a perpetual nightmare.

At that time football in the Netherlands was, even at the highest level, purely a part-time occupation, but now of course it has changed and changed, for the better.

The fact that I am now over thirty has made me in the eyes of both journalists and fans a veteran. And it is true that, without sounding too conceited, I have had vast experience of the international game both at club and national level.

I have certainly had some extremely unpleasant experiences in the European Cup, notably in the away legs against the Turkish outfits Fenerbahce and Besiktas. They attempted all the "professional" tactics, if that's the right word, you can imagine. They were determined to upset our rhythm, but their basic ball skills were so inferior that we overcame their vicious fouling, and in actual fact played quite well.

When we started to show them what soccer was all about they relented and as such "gave-up-the-ghost". And in fact towards the end of both games the Turkish supporters began to applaud everything we did, and when the referee blew the final whistle we were given a standing ovation, which surely all goes to show that football fans throughout the world crave for only two things, namely goals and entertainment.

I have always been a firm advocate of the attacking game, and I just hope that the way we played in Germany will influence the more defence-minded countries. Because if things don't change, then football throughout both Europe and South America will become just like a negative chess game.

Hard tackling is okay by me. After all, I've had to combat a great deal of it during my long career. But the kickers must be stamped out, otherwise a ball artist like Johan Cruyff for example could find himself intimidated out of the game altogether!

Brian Marshall looks at Carlisle and West Bromwich and the odd reversal in their fortunes

Alan Ashman being interviewed for television by Tom Coyne at the time of his sacking from West Bromwich Albion. In the middle is a pensive Jim Gaunt, the club chairman.

SHORTLY after the season started Carlisle United were heading the First Division, while West Bromwich Albion were bottom of the Second Division.

This most unlikely situation must have prompted many ironic comments in view of the happenings which took place a few years ago.

At that time it was decided that Albion should have a change of manager. Alan Ashman, who had guided the club to the FA Cup Final success over Everton and also to the Football League Cup Final, was axed while still on holiday and Don Howe was asked to take his place.

Stated

Mr. Jim Gaunt, Albion's chairman at that time, had stated that while they appreciated the success of a good Cup team they wanted the club to enjoy success in the Football League.

In an attempt to bring about this change they decided that they needed a new manager. Don Howe, who had enjoyed outstanding success with Arsenal as their coach, was persuaded to return to the Hawthorns where he had spent most of his playing career.

Ashman bowed out with a great deal of sympathy from inside the game. It was generally thought that his record did not deserve the kind of treatment he had received from Albion.

But with typical grace and courage he manfully accepted Albion's decision as being part of the ever changing game. He had a spell in Greece where he had ironically spent his holiday prior to his dismissal from Albion.

Then he was persuaded to return to England and rejoin his former club, Carlisle United. Without being disrespectful, Carlisle are not one of the most fashionable clubs in the country. It's doubtful if they ever will be because of their geographical position but they have proved to possess a capacity to provide good entertainment on a restricted budget.

Ashman himself did not mind the circumstances in which he found his old club. He was back in English soccer and given another opportunity to prove himself in the hardest competition in the world.

Handful

With a handful of new signings, who between them did not cost a fortune, Ashman proceeded to build a promotion team. When they gained a place in the First Division a lot of people scoffed at them going up in preference to such teams as Aston Villa, Sunderland and his old club, Albion.

But Ashman had produced a match winning line-up and this was his secret at the Hawthorns. He was able to manipulate the players at his disposal and in the light of later events his achievements at the Hawthorns were outstanding.

Ashman, however, is not the man to crow over his own success or the struggling situation in which Albion have found themselves at the start of the season. He is fully aware of the pitfalls in the game but quietly he admits that he derived a great deal of satisfaction taking Carlisle back into the First Division.

Maintain

Naturally, Carlisle could not maintain their impressive start. Other new teams in the First Division started with a bang and later exploded.

In Carlisle the Northern club have a manager who is fully experienced about life in the First Division. He said: "I do not need anyone to tell me how tough it is in the First Division. I well know from past experience!"

He adds: "Let's face it, the established First Division teams are bound to possess more skill than Carlisle. They have a greater depth in their playing staff.

"Here at Carlisle we can only offset this by sheer hard work and not allowing the opposition any scope in which to destroy us."

No one needs to tell Ashman that it is going to be a long hard winter but

Ashman can now smile!

he would not swop his present position for his old job because he has proved to himself that he has the capacity to master-mind a promotion team.

But as one travels up through the Lake District one wonders how long Ashman can keep them in the top flight. This is going to be a tremendous task and it will be viewed with close interest by everyone in soccer.

But spare a thought for Don Howe, who took over the hot seat at the Hawthorns. He has seen the famous Midland club slump from the First Division into the Second Division with alarming haste.

They made a disastrous start to the season and were bottom for a spell but have since started to climb. It is, however, a common view that Albion are not promotion material and that it will take some time before they can recapture old glories.

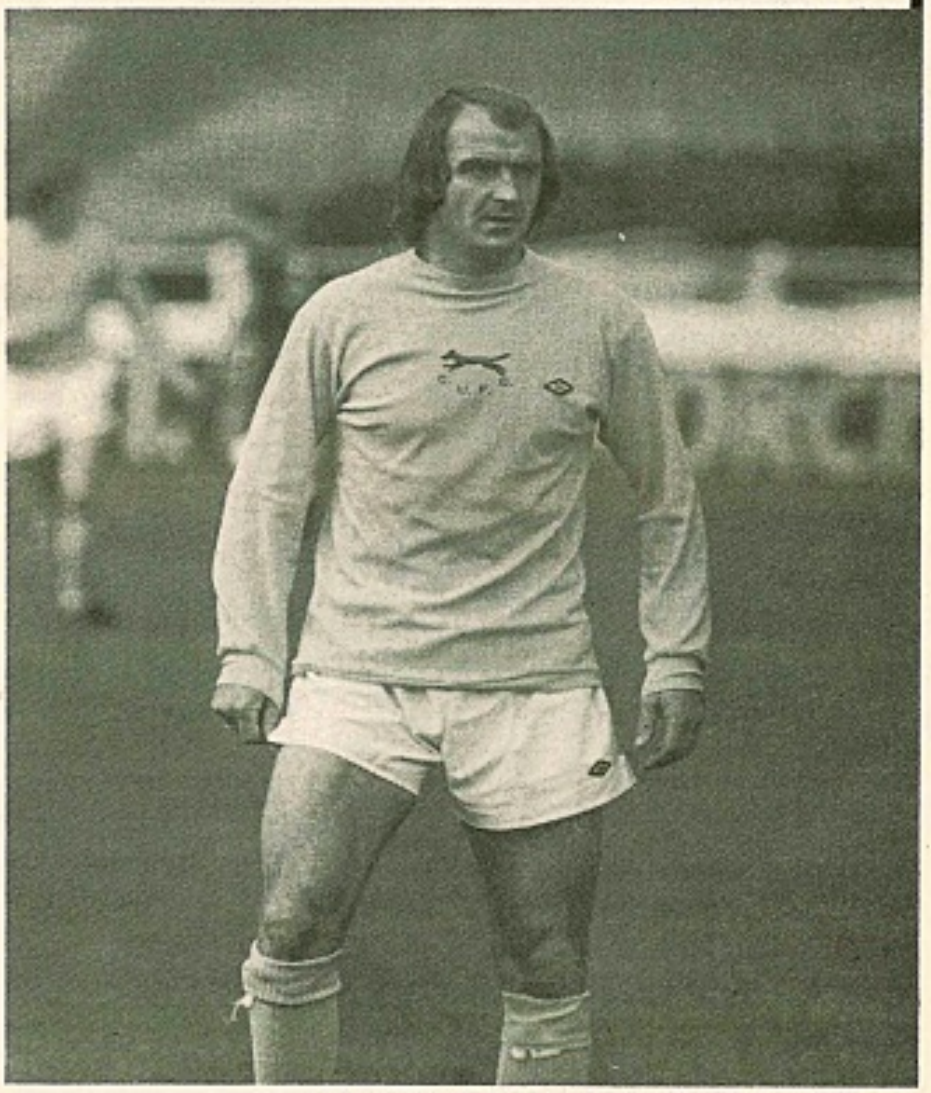
Understand

This is not very difficult to understand. Since he took over as manager Don Howe has slowly got rid of the old guard and parted with his best players. The case in point was the departure of Asa Hartford to Manchester City. The Scottish international solved Albion's big financial loss last season but created another problem because they do not possess another player of his quality to fill his place.

Jim Gaunt, the man who wanted more League success, has now handed over to Bert Millichip. The directors are now seeking to have a closer connection with manager Howe in an attempt to improve the club's flagging fortunes.

It is an extremely difficult situation and it is obviously a long term operation but no one could have imagined that Albion would have slumped so disastrously over such a short period of time.

They are not blessed with the best support in terms of attendance figures and until they can get back into the First Division this problem is not likely to show an improvement. It's a vicious circle that has hit so many clubs in the past following relegation.



Frank Clarke of Carlisle.

The standard of play has deteriorated following the lack of success and the future does not appear to be very bright.

But following the recent annual general meeting when not one shareholder asked a single question about the performances of the team it appears, on the surface, that there is little concern outside the club.

That must be an ominous sign which must cause everyone at the Hawthorns considerable discomforture — to say the least. How different it is in little Carlisle United.

DEVELOP ATTACK BOOST CR

by ERIC BATTY

FOR some years now football has been dominated by defensive tactics. In its simplest terms, defeats or too many of them means dismissal for the manager and most managers have taken the easy way out.

Given a good goalkeeper, any five men playing only inside their penalty area will make it very, very difficult to score goals and this kind of insurance the majority of managers need. They live in fear and pass on this fear to their players. Skilful and intelligent players are ordered to give more time to harassing opponents in midfield rather than wander upfield to create or score goals; defenders are instructed not to leave the man they are ordered to mark or not to cross the half-way line.

Tactically almost everyone has followed the Italian style catenaccio in one form or another. In England many teams play to a 4-4-2 line up and elsewhere the tactical framework varies from 4-3-3 to 1-3-3-3 or 1-4-3-2.

Varying

Though other reasons have contributed, these reasons varying from one country to another there can be no doubt that this move towards defence has made the game less interesting and entertaining to watch. It plays a large part in explaining why fewer people are watching the game at top level in every country.

Significantly, the teams that have played the most attractive, attacking football in the last two or three years have not been affected by the general fall in attendances. In this category I would place Ajax, Bayern Munchen and more recently CF Barcelona. But in all three cases, success is due not so much to the fact that they have an enterprising manager but that they are fortunate to have very good attacking players.

Decline

But there are other clubs that have not been affected by the general decline in attendance figures who do not have particularly outstanding star players. Two that merit particular mention are Feyenoord and Borussia Monchengladbach, and Borussia continued to please their fans even after they lost the services of their biggest star Gunter Netzer. Both these clubs have extremely good managers who, through their work on the training ground have improved the individual skills of the players and helped them to play together. Most important they encourage their players to go forward.

The result is entertaining football which the customers like. Though the majority of teams have not yet made any move away from the most popular tactics of the day there have already been encouraging signs. Ajax and Bayern encourage their back players to go forward with Krol and Hulshoff for Ajax, Beckenbauer and former left back Breitner for Bayern the most gifted in terms of skill. But the team is organised in such a way that when one of the back players goes forward, one of the midfield players drops back temporarily to ensure that there are still four at the back. They leave no gaps and take no chances.

Attacking

This was true too at international level when West Germany won the European champions cup with an outstanding display of attacking football.

The signs are there that managers who have good players and are able through their coaching to organise team-work at a very high level AND have gifted

Edstrom of Sweden and Krol of Holland.

KING SKILLS AND ROWDS

players, are prepared to allow back players to go forward.

Even better examples though not necessarily obvious to the public are the advances made by Borussia and Feyenoord for their managers sincerely believe attacking football and the importance of skill above all. They stand out as the prototype for the future of the game.

If Ajax, Bayern and the West German national team first drew attention to the attacking possibilities open to back four players it is at West Ham that I have seen the biggest hope for a not far distant change in tactics. Being in difficulty last season their circumstances demanded that they take risks at times . . . because they badly needed to win games. This is true however for teams at the top of the league table because they must get points to stay there!

Nightmares

Several times last season West Ham took a step that many managers would have nightmares about. **They played one against one at the back.**

At home to Derby County, the visitors played to a 4-4-2 system and right from the start West Ham played 2-5-3 with five midfield players free to break out and move upfield whenever they saw a good opportunity to exploit a favourable situation.

On other occasions West Ham started the game playing 3-4-3 but then losing at half time they changed their line-up again and with only two full-time defenders they then went on to regain control of the game and win.

What it all means is that numbers do not necessarily guarantee success. What counts in the ultimate analysis is the individual ability of the players and their ability to play together intelligently and above all — to improvise.

What West Ham did, and let there be no mistake about this; if they made the switch they did then they would probably have been relegated to the Second Division, can be done by others. They set an example, proved it can be done and it would be nice to think that in the near future others will follow their example.

One of my nicest memories of the 1973-74 season I saw at West Ham. They had been attacking and a quick counter-attack put them in serious trouble. Left back Lampard was faced by two men with no help available. With a man running at him in possession of the ball and a team-mate unmarked on his left it required a great deal of skill from Lampard to avoid conceding a goal. That was precisely what he did, jockeying off his opponent, feinting to tackle but then turning away and gently, easily, shepherding his opponent away from goal.

These two players ended up near the corner flag and by this time the danger was over. But just to make the incident even more memorable Lampard won a throw-in!

I have seen many other examples like this . . . breakaway attacks that leave one defender alone facing one man and even two, but this demonstration by Lampard was the best I have ever seen. He took his opponent by the hand, as if he were a child and led him out to the wing and into the corner. Like many other aspects of the game it is easy . . . if you know how.

Of course the players must practice this in training and there is no doubt that coaches like Hennes Weisweiler

Continued on page 46

Frank Lampard (West Ham) and Kevin Hector (Derby) during the match mentioned by Eric Batty.

Football's version of Upstairs, Downstairs

Anxious moments

A behind the scenes story by
CHARLIE COOKE (Chelsea)
(in an interview with Gregory Tesser)

IT'S different below in the dressing-room before a match. There's no cool beer or King's Road dollies, none of the euphoria of up top. An excitement, sure, but one that's heavy with anxiety — a religious dedication to the rituals being performed. An implicit notion that a life or two may be changed before the day is out.

The floor, a mass of shinpads, shirts, shorts and socks; tracksuits; towels and bottles of oil; tins of Vaseline and packets of studs; hammers and pliers; laces and boots; scissors; bandages; strips of Elastoplast and tufts of cotton wool, and small grey balls of spat-out gum. And tucked unobtrusively in some quiet corner, sterilising in a stainless steel basin of blue alcohol, the tray of surgical instruments, razor sharp scalpels and evil-looking sutures already threaded with brown stitching gut, awesome tools that ring distant alarm bells in the mind and impose a subtle sobriety on the proceedings.

The air smelling hot and linimently and everybody milling round like nervous bulls. White-coated helpers rubbing down muscles and studding boots while the team manager circulates quietly with last minute words of encouragement and caution. The room full of naked bodies with massively developed calves and thighs topped with chest cages and arms that look fragile in comparison, bending and stretching and wind-milling in well-practised warm-ups.

Caricature

Grown men, whose behaviour in the half-hour or so before the kick-off is a gross caricature of their norm. Extroverts clowning away time, while introverts retreat to private worlds behind walls of trivia, rituals of boot-lacing and nail-cutting. But the tension is getting through to all. You can be sure. You can tell by the forced laughter that greets even the dullest remarks and by the constant procession to the john.

Yes, this is how it is all right. Your guts like water, your thoughts racing on the edge of hallucination. Alone you sit amidst the jock-strapped torsos pulling jerseys over their heads and bandaging ankles, glad for the times when you did less than you trained to exhaustion. And heavy with guilt for all those times when you did less than you might. There will be a reckoning. You know it. Not today perhaps, not tomorrow either. But you will pay. Remote you sit in this bustling nervous community making an MGM production of trivial tasks on account you don't want time on your hands.

Yes, this is how it is, that feeling close to vomit just before the "off". Your skull is aching like it's ready to burst. The tension almost tangible, thick in the air. And everything getting quieter, conversations just above a whisper. But with the referee's buzzer a sudden babble of voices, each wishing the other well, bodies intertwining in ritual hand-shaking. Some have a soft moist feel, while others offer only their fingers. And some take a firm masculine grip, perhaps clasping your forearm as well, like it should be, you think, and you feel a bit better for it.

Soon you are lined up at the door, everybody marking time, some jostling neurotically for a particular position, slaves to their supersitions, studs nervously clicking on the floor. But finally the door opens and you are in the tunnel, marking time again, your studs clattering on the concrete and your opponents lined up similarly a couple of yards away.

You stand there fidgeting, nowhere to put your eyes, never looking at them, not for any length of time, anyway. But you can see your opponents from their waists down and your stomach almost turns at the sight of those massive hairy legs, rock hard columns of muscle that set you thinking that these geezers can probably go like gazelles. And you think of the irony of it all.

Maybe seventy thousand excited fans up top who would give anything to be down in your place. And you? Right now you wouldn't mind being up there, with the cool beer and the King's Road dollies, immersed in the collective euphoria. Yet you know that when the concrete yields to turf, when your studs cease their clatter, and you start to swing the ball about in those long looping practice passes, it will start to be right again and the game will take over.

Chelsea v. Arsenal with Arsenal goalkeeper Jimmy Rimmer foiling this leap by Ian Hutchinson.

DATELINE DIARY

POLAND GO OFF SONG

SEPTEMBER 1

HELSINKI: Poland, who finished third in the World Cup and lacking only their captain Kazimierz Deyna from their best side, made heavy weather of beating Finland in the opening European Championship match. Rahja gave the Finns a shock lead after five minutes, but Szarmach equalised after 23 minutes and Grzegorz Lato, top scorer in the World Cup with seven goals, scored the winner six minutes after the interval.

WEST GERMANY: Franz Beckenbauer was elected Footballer of the Year receiving 411 out of 702 votes. Berti Vogts was runner-up with 124 and Sepp Maier third with 88. Other votes: Wolfgang Overath 26, Paul Breitner 18, Gerd Muller 12, Rainer Bonhof 9 and Uli Hoeness 5.

SEPTEMBER 4

STOCKHOLM: Holland who failed to score only once in the World Cup and that was against Sweden, had no difficulty in beating the Swedes 5-1. Four of their goals came from "Spanish" exiles Johan Cruyff and Johan Neeskens who hit three including one penalty. Rensenbrink scored the fifth. Sweden were already three down when Bo Larsson hit their goal also from the penalty spot in 55 minutes.

VIENNA: Despite the absence of seven leading players and losing a goal in the first half, Austria beat Wales 2-1 in a European Championship match. Thirty-two year old Arfon Griffiths put Wales ahead after 35 minutes, but second half goals from Willy Kreuz (63) and Hans Krankl (75) saw Austria through safely.

OSLO: Northern Ireland began well enough in this European Championship encounter against Norway scoring through Sunderland's Tom Finney after three minutes but a brace of goals after after the break by Tom Lund ended their hopes.

WARSAW: Though Lato gave Poland a ninth minute lead against East Germany, goals by Kurbjuweit and Vogel put the Germans ahead before half-time and Dorner completed their scoring after the interval for a 3-1 victory.

BASEL: West Germany, the World Cup winners looked unimpressive in their 2-1 victory over Switzerland. All three goals were scored in the first half through Bernd Cullmann (6 mins.), Kudi Muller equalising for Switzerland (23) and Rainer Geyu (27). The Germans were without Overath and Muller retired from international football and Breitner now playing for Real Madrid in Spain. Beckenbauer won his 86th cap for the winners.

SEPTEMBER 8

WROCLAW: Poland suffered their second defeat in a few days on their own soil when France beat them 2-0. Two goals in three minutes just before the interval sent the Poles crashing with Coste (37 mins.) and Jodar (39) the marksmen.

REYKJAVIK: Two goals by Wilfried Van Moer gave Belgium a 2-0 win over Iceland in the European Championship. The second goal only came in the dying minutes when 87th minute substitute Jacques Teugels was fouled almost as soon as he came on, giving Van Moer his second goal, this time from the penalty spot.

WEST GERMANY: Amateur club OSC Union Solingen scored a giant-killing success over Bundesliga club Kickers Offenbach in the first round of the West German Cup winning 2-1. Offenbach had started their Bundesliga programme by hammering the champions Bayern Munich 6-0.

PORTUGAL: Sporting Lisbon lost their opening League game 1-0 away to Olhanense, but were without several leading players injured including Europe's top scorer of 1973-74, 46 goals Hector Yazalde.

SPAIN: Shocks for Champions Barcelona beaten 3-2 on the opening day by Real Sociedad. In fact the team of Cruyff and Neeskens only managed to get into the scoring lists with two goals in the last five minutes.

MONTERREY: Mexico beat the USA 3-1 before 23,000 spectators. The half-time score was 0-0.

SEPTEMBER 10

DALLAS: Mexico clinched the Rio Bravo Cup by completing a double over the USA whom they beat 1-0; the goal being scored in the first half.

SEPTEMBER 2

COPENHAGEN: Denmark had one of their biggest victories in international football when they scored nine without reply against Indonesia.

Berti Vogts — runner-up in the West German Footballer of the Year poll.

SEPTEMBER 3

LUXEMBOURG: An experimental West German "B" team scored five goals in the second half to beat the Luxembourg national team in a friendly international.

SEPTEMBER 15

TEHERAN: Iran won the Asian Games football tournament by beating Israel 1-0 in the final. They are managed by former Manchester United, Cardiff City and Leicester City boss Frank O'Farrell. Israel who have already been barred from further competing in these games reached the final when North Korea and Kuwait refused to play against them.

SEPTEMBER 14

REYKJAVIK: Valur won the Icelandic Cup beating League champions Akranes 4-1. It was Akranes first defeat of the season.

MOSCOW: Three Soviet referees have been banned from First Division games until the end of the season because of poor handling of matches: A. Vasilyev (Kharkov), V. Kharkov (Moscow) and Y. Balykin (Dneuropetrovsk). Three linesmen were also disqualified for the rest of the season. After a spot check the referees were banned after 'displaying arbitrary interpretation of the rules in the definition of fouls, showing indecisiveness in awarding penalties and liasing badly with linesmen. They did not use all the rights allowed them as regards footballers who infringed discipline on the field.'

Report from Arthur Rotmil

Sensational departure of Breitner...

WEST GERMAN football, still basking in the unprecedented series of success at international level, culminating in the World Cup triumph, has returned to its "bread and butter" domestic competitions in mid-August. It was indeed a short break for the leading stars some of whom, notably the Bayern Munich men, have played over 100 matches last season!

Before the start of the championship campaign, however, there was one major event still outstanding from last term: the Cup Final! This game has had to be postponed because there were simply no free dates available in view of the late finish to the *Bundesliga* programme and the necessity to prepare for the World Cup.

Bonhof of West Germany.

And so, a week before the League fixtures had commenced, Eintracht Frankfurt and the Hamburger SV met at the Rhein-Stadion in Dusseldorf before a crowd of 53,000 to dispute the 31st DFB-Cup final. Both teams were already in a remarkably fine physical condition and produced a match of an exceptionally high standard and full of dramatic incidents.

After Trinklein had put Eintracht ahead, Bjornmose equalised for HSV, but goals from World Cup star Holzenbein and substitute Kraus, in extra time, clinched the trophy for Frankfurt, for the first time in their history. It was a glorious success for this club which this year celebrates the 75th anniversary of its foundation.

Period

As is customary here, the transfer period was confined to the off-season. German clubs are now allowed to engage players until December 31, that is to say till the half-way stage of the championship. But old habits die hard and once the season starts hardly any players change clubs.

A number of teams have strengthened their playing staff during the summer break and here is the list of the most expensive transfers:

Uwe Kliemann, from Eintracht Frankfurt to Hertha Berlin £140,000; Klaus Wunder, MSV Duisburg to Bayern Munich £130,000; Hans Bongartz, Waltenscheid to Schalke £130,000; Willi Reimann, Hannover to Hamburger SV £117,000; Gerd Zimmermann, Fortuna Cologne to Fortuna Dusseldorf £108,000; Hanjo Weller, 1860 Munich to VfB Stuttgart £77,000; Karl-Heinz Handschuh, VfB Stuttgart to Eintracht Brunswick £66,000; Franz Gerber, St. Pauli to Wuppertaler SV £55,000; Wolfgang Frank, Alkmaar (Holland) to Eintracht Brunswick £40,000; Ronnie Hellström, Hamarby (Sweden) to Kaiserslautern £30,000; Horst Bertl, Borussia Dortmund to Hamburger SV £30,000; Manfred Burgsmüller, Bayer Uerdinden to Rotweiss Essen £27,000; Benno Magnusson, Kaiserslautern to Hertha Berlin £25,000.

The £140,000 which Hertha paid Eintracht Frankfurt for central defender Uwe Kliemann is a new record transfer fee in German football. Excluding sales abroad, of course.

The most significant—not to say sensational—departure from Germany has been the totally unexpected transfer of the international full back Paul Breitner, a member of the World Cup winning side. The 22-year-old Bayern star, who has gained 26 caps for his country, was allegedly worth £420,000 to the famous Spanish club Real Madrid.

Incredibly, Breitner the idealist, whose literary interests centre on books by Marx and Lenin, as well as the thoughts of China's leader Mao-Tse-Tung, and whose political views have frequently upset his club bosses, appeared all set to quit football altogether!

He wanted to devote himself to teaching handicapped children and to similar forms of charitable work. Instead, he has taken his family—which incidentally includes an adopted Vietnamese child—off to Spain, to embark on a soccer career even richer in financial pickings than he enjoyed in Germany. With Bayern Breitner was reputedly earning £50,000 a year, plus of course extras from sponsorships and other commercial ventures which he allegedly despises!

Internationals

The *Bundesliga* now boasts a total of 44 internationals, split between these clubs as follows:

Bayern Munich: Beckenbauer (85 caps), Müller (62), Maier (57), Schwarzenbeck (30), Hoeness (27), Roth (4), Kapellmann (3) and Wunder (1).

Borussia Mönchengladbach: Vogts (58), Heynckes (3), Wimmer (25), Köppel (11), Bonhof (8), Kleff (6) and Danner (1).

Cologne: Overath (81), Weber (53), Löhr (20), Flohe (17), and Cullmann (15).

Schalke: Libuda (26), Fichtel (23), Erwin Kremers (15), Helmut Kremers (5) and Nigbur (2).

Cullmann heads West Germany's first goal against Switzerland.

Werder Bremen: Höttges (66), Dietrich (1) and Zembski (1).
Eintracht Frankfurt: Grabowski (44) and Hölzenbein (10).
Hertha Berlin: Wolter (13) and Ludwig Müller (6).
Eintracht Brunswick: Gerwien (6) and Franke (2).
Hamburger SV: Volkert (6) and Zaczyk (1).
Fortuna Düsseldorf: Herzog (4) and Geye (2).
Tennis Borussia Berlin: Schnellinger (47).
Kickers Offenbach: Held (41).
MSV Duisburg: Bella (4).
Kaiserslautern: Laumen (2).
Wuppertaler SV: Neuberger (2).
VfB Stuttgart: Brenninger (1).

'Mercenary'

Only two clubs, VfL Bochum and Rotweis Essen, have no internationals on their books. All the players mentioned are of course only those capped by West Germany. The oldest star is Karl-Heinz Schnellinger, who has returned to Germany after 11 years as a "mercenary" in Italy; he is now 35. Five men have quit the *Bundesliga*, all former internationals: Wolfgang Fahrian (Fortuna Cologne) and Hans Siemensmayer (Hannover), who were relegated, Bernd Rupp and Klaus Sieloff who left Borussia Mönchengladbach to join Wiesbaden and Alemannia Aachen respectively, plus goalkeeper Günter Bernard (34) who has retired from football.

In addition, there are 20 foreign players active in the *Bundesliga*, most of them full internationals. Bayern have two Danes, Johnny Hansen and Viggo Jensen, plus the Swede Conny Torstensson. Borussia Monchengladbach also boast a couple of Danes in Allan Simonsen and Henning Jensen plus the Belgian Roger Roebben. Two Swedish World Cup stars play for Kaiserslautern namely Ronnie Hellstrom generally acknowledged as one of the best goalkeepers in the world series and striker Roland Sandberg.

Another Swede wears the colours of Hertha Berlin, the winger Benno Magnusson, now partnering the Swiss centre forward Kudi Müller. A couple of Austrians, Hans Schmidradner and Josef Hickersberger, are engaged with Kickers Oenbach, whilst their compatriot Hans Eltmayer is still with VfB Stuttgart.

Two more Danes Per Roentved and Paul-Erik Thygesen are with Bremen and another one with Hamburg in the shape of Ole Björnmose. HSV also boast a Turkish goalkeeper in Arkoc Oeczan.

The Dutchmen Willy Lippens and Harry de Vlugt have strengthened Rotweiss Essen, while the only South American active here is the Argentinian Ricardo Neumann, who is however mostly in reserves with FC Cologne.

And the only foreign coaches now remaining here are all Yugoslavs: Zlatko Cajkowski (Cologne), Ivica Horvat (Schalke) and Branco Zebec (Brunswick).

The most important development in German football has undoubtedly been the creation at last of a Second Division. Eleven years after the Bundesliga was launched, the old Regional Leagues have been replaced with the two Second Divisions, North and South, thus providing solid foundations to the National League.

Promotion

In each of these geographical sections there are 20 clubs. At the end of the season the two winners from each division will automatically gain promotion to the *Bundesliga*. The two runners up will be required to play-off on a home and away basis for the third place into the National League. For in the *Bundesliga* there will for the first time be three clubs relegated. The new Second Division, called 2. *Bundesliga*, includes some very famous clubs among them former champions of this country like 1860 Munich, FC Nurnberg and Borussia Dortmund.

It is also worth noting, that German football claims a world record attendance for a match in a lower division: in August 1973 a crowd of about 80,000 watched the Regional League game 1860 Munich v. FC Augsburg in Munich's Olympic stadium.

The start to the championship has produced the most sensational results in the history of the *Bundesliga*. The title holders and winners of the European Cup, Bayern Munich with all their World Cup stars (except Breitner), crashed in Frankfurt's Wald stadium to the modest Kickers Offenbach by 6-0! In a way it was hardly surprising, for the champions have once again embarked on a mad run of fixtures: Before the season had began, Bayern played 19 games in 26 days, including two tournaments in Spain, but also against opponents of the calibre of Rapid Vienna, Feyenoord and Ujpest-Dozsa. It was incidentally Bayern's heaviest ever defeat in a *Bundesliga* match.

Attendances

There was little joy for the other fancied teams, for Borussia Mönchengladbach slumped at home to a 1-3 defeat by Hamburger SV, while Cologne, also on their own ground, lost to modest Rotweiss Essen 0-1. Attendances on the opening day were the best for three years, while the tally of 34 goals in nine games was also most impressive.

For the national side the coming season will be one of consolidation, but also of some rebuilding. Gerd Muller and Wolfgang Overath have now retired from the international scene, whilst Paul Breitner may find it difficult to keep his place, since his form with Real Madrid cannot be comprehensively checked nor is it certain whether his release can be obtained for every international. Thus the team which won the World Cup will probably never again take the field in the same formation.

CARLOS ALBERTO (Brazil) interview

I must learn self-discipline to gain place

QUESTION: Last summer rumours were circulated saying that, as in 1966, you were left out of the Germany World Cup squad for disciplinary reasons. Surely a drastic step to take, considering your fine performances as captain in Mexico!

ANSWER: Drastic? Certainly. But in life you've got to be taught a lesson on occasions, otherwise you can find yourself thinking you're bigger than the sport itself.

Of course I was disappointed at being left out of the final World Cup pool, especially as I had participated in many of the pre-World training sessions under our coach Mario Zagalo. You see, I was feeling both confident and relaxed because my knee trouble was at last beginning to improve.

I know now that if I am to regain my international place, I've got to learn more self-discipline — it's as simple as that!

You began your professional career in the Juniors of the Fluminense club in Rio de Janeiro, and you soon made your mark as an attractive attacking full-back. Looking back, what would you say was your most important breakthrough?

I think that the word breakthrough is bandied about far too much nowadays. Of course every player has a breakthrough, but surely it is nearly always just a piece of good luck.

In my case I was lucky because in 1964, at the age of sixteen, I won a League medal with Fluminense. And to be honest I never thought I was particularly outstanding.

In my view I was just fortunate to play in such a magnificent team. You know, all I did really was to make up the numbers. And, as we had broken Botafogo's three year reign as champions, my presence in the side attracted the attention of the-then Brazilian team-manager Vincente Feola, and I found myself included in his side to play England in the "Little World Cup".

And although I must admit I played really well against England in our 5-1 win, I honestly think I played far above my true ability at that time. In our next game against Argentina I flopped in our 3-0 drubbing, and it was then that I still had a long way to go before I could properly be called international material.

However, if it hadn't been for Mr. Feola's confidence in me, I might never have made the grade in the international arena.

After your cartilage operation in the summer of 1971 your career suddenly went sour. You were accused time and time again of lacking sufficient consistency both at club and international level. How do you react to such adverse criticisms?

Adverse comment from the Press is something every professional must accept if he is to cope with all the pressures of the modern game. Of course, there have been instances during my career when maybe I looked lackadaisical, but then every player has periods during his career when he finds it difficult to concentrate for the full ninety minutes. But, in my opinion, the only critic a player really worries about is himself!

You saw Francisco De Chaves Marinho playing magnificently as an attacking full-back in Germany. Do you think he could become a threat to your career?

I don't regard Francisco as a rival. I look at it this way: With our defensive tactics proving so unsuccessful in Germany, there is no reason why both Marinho and myself shouldn't be able to play together as an attacking duo.

After all, we both like to go forward, which in my view is the "name of the game." Look at the Dutch for example.

They utilised attacking full-back play to good effect in the last World Cup, and I reckon that we are capable of doing the same in the years leading up to the next World Championships.

Because of your absence from the Brazilian squad in Germany you are one of the very few whose name hasn't been tarnished. Do you consider yourself lucky?

Frankly, I feel that the way the Brazilians were treated by the Press both during and after the Finals was disgraceful. Certainly our defensive tactics were proved to be wrong, but on the other hand we did finish fourth!

As far as my reputation is concerned, all I can say is that I'd rather have failed in the World Cup Finals than not take part at all.

In the early 1970s, Santos took the much-needed plunge into the transfer market, signing Ze Carlos from America, goalkeeper Mario Cejas from Racing of Buenos Aires and Afonsinho from Vasco, just to name a few, in an attempt to continue their many successes of the '60s.

Yet despite all these names they haven't been able to reproduce the side which made them internationally famous. Why do you think this is?

Your guess is as good as mine. But probably one of the main reasons for our comparative lack of success has been our over-pre-occupation with playing prestige friendlies against, without sounding too disrespectful, inferior opposition.

Since about 1969 we have tended to concentrate far too much on travelling abroad, and as such our competitive games have suffered, which subsequently resulted in smaller gates. This led to considerable worry amongst the club directors, so they tried to recoup some of their financial losses by deciding to build a luxurious hotel, the "Parque Balneario".

This was a sound and sensible project, but the money still continued to disappear at an alarming rate. And when the tax authorities stepped in, the club found itself in what was basically a near-bankrupt situation.

However, thanks to massive support from big business we are now beginning to be financially solvent once again, which enable the management to delve into the transfer market.

At the age of twenty-seven you have achieved every ambition a player could hope for. How do you see your future?

Now that I am more dedicated, I look upon the future with great optimism. I'm brimful of confidence and look forward with tremendous anticipation to many years of playing top-class soccer. But obviously I won't be really satisfied until I can full patch up my differences with the Brazilian F.A., and become an international regular once more.

Leicester City's ALAN BIRCHENALL talks to Gregory Tesser

THE TANK HAS A NEW LOOK

AT CHELSEA Alan Birchenall was known as "Sherman", (after the tank). Peter Osgood once described him as the "best hustler and bustler in the First Division".

At Crystal Palace his reputation as a workhorse grew, although at one time he was forced to play in midfield when Palace were hit by injuries.

When Jimmy Bloomfield signed him for £100,000 it was on the strength of his striking ability, plus his non-stop work-rate. And in fact he was only switched to midfield by manager Bloomfield as a temporary measure. However, Alan's performances in the middle of the park improved so much that the Leicester boss had no alternative but to keep him in the side as an out-and-out schemer.

So, Birchenall, always admired as a trier in and around the six-yard box, had now become in the space of only a few weeks one of the most talked-about footballers in the Midlands.

I asked Alan why he thought his new lease-of-life had in fact come about in such a spectacular way.

"I don't regard my new status as a footballer spectacular. Although Leicester is undoubtedly the most go-ahead club I have played for, it is I think the way a player is respected which has had so much to do with my transformation.

Basically

"At Chelsea, for example, I was never allowed to express myself on the field. They bought me basically because they wanted an old-fashioned type of centre-forward in the side. And as I was never expected to do anything else, my career got into the most boring rut.

"At Leicester, however, I have always been encouraged to attempt new things, not just in training, but also on the park. This of course has made me feel more relaxed and as any footballer will tell you, when you're relaxed you are a better all-round player."

Leicester has, during recent seasons, become a kind of haven of peace for ex-London based stars. Apart from Birchenall, there is Denis Rofe (ex-Orient); Steve Earle (ex-Fulham); Keith Weller (ex-Chelsea); Jon Sammels (ex-Arsenal); and Len Glover (ex-Charlton).

And none has shone brighter than Keith Weller, a player who became the butt of the Chelsea fans during his short stay at Stamford Bridge.

Is there some magic potion at Filbert Street which makes average players into good ones?

"The point is that none of the exiled Londoners in the Leicester side was ever in fact just an average First Division performer. Take the case of Keith Weller, probably as you say the prime example of a rejuvenated player. In my opinion Keith has always been one of the most skilful forwards in the country. In fact I can't understand why he is not an England regular. Anyway that's neither here nor there. Keith is not so much a greatly-improved player, he is more just another obvious example of how the Leicester atmosphere brings out hidden talents in a player.

"I know you will probably say that you've heard it all before. But really and truly I cannot think of a club in the whole of the United Kingdom with such a marvellous "all-for-one and one-for-all" attitude as Leicester. If there is one I certainly would like to hear about it!"

But why did all Leicester's new signings settle down so quickly?

"Purely and simply because at Filbert Street there is I think a unique balance of a happy-family type of environment blended with an approach to the game which is based on skill, and skill alone."

Leicester are generally regarded as one of England's most exciting sides. Queen's Park Rangers' skipper Terry Venables described them to me once as one of the few teams in the First Division he actually enjoyed playing against. This emphasis on attack, although winning them literally thousands of new friends, could well prove to be their undoing this season when they obviously expect to be in at the death for the First Division Championship.

Refuted

However, manager Bloomfield refuted this theory when he stated that in his view Leicester now play the kind of game which has the best of both West Ham and Leeds. Does Birchenall agree with his manager's best-of-both-worlds idea?

"Who am I to criticise the views of a man, without whose guidance I would not be as self-assured as I am to-day. You're right, several pundits have said that our dedication to the business of attacking could well prevent us from becoming League Champions in the near future. But at the same time they forget that football throughout the world is going through a transitional period. After a decade of countless upon countless so-called new defensive formations and systems, soccer is at last coming out of its shell. This is why I think the Leicester way is the only way.

Jimmy Bloomfield, manager of Leicester City.

"Of course by this I don't mean that we have completely neglected our defence. We have a much sounder reguard than people give us credit for."

With Birchenall operating with so much success in midfield, and all of Leicester's other ex-Londoners producing top-class performances week after week, no one woud disagree with veteran Graham Cross that this is indeed the best-ever Leicester side.

"Well, after all Graham should know. He's been playing for the club for over ten years now," Alan told me.

"In my view everything at Leicester is perfect. Our training methods are far superior to anything I experienced at either Sheffield United, Chelsea or Crystal Palace. My own re-birth as an infinitely superior player is surely evidence of this. Don't got me wrong, I am not trying to blow my own trumpet, I am simply trying to explain to you how an atmosphere at a club can influence the career of so many players, some of whom were essentially discarded by their previous clubs because they supposedly didn't deliver the goods their transfer fees demanded."

Mr Morris abolish indi

A LONG letter from Trevor Morris, Secretary of the Welsh Football Association and former manager of Swansea Town, takes me to task for my public opposition to the Welsh F.A.'s proposal to abolish the indirect free kick. You may have noticed that FIFA, in West Germany, shelved the proposal for a year, so that certain objections could be considered.

Mr. Morris points out to me that the abolition of the indirect free kick would not mean that any and every offence in the penalty area would automatically be punished by a penalty kick. "For technical offences such as a goalkeeper exceeding the statutory number of steps, he does not concede a penalty but a free kick (direct of course since indirect free kicks would have been abolished.) In other words, only the present nine penal offences would incur a penalty. All secondary offences, whether within or outside the penalty area, would be penalised by the award of a free kick."

Mr. Morris then goes on to say: "I entirely agree with your comments regarding obstruction and this will receive our future attention. At this stage, our main preoccupation was to rid the game of an unnecessary encumbrance."

My feelings about obstruction were that, since 1951 when it was specifically enacted that it incur only an indirect free kick, the classical, "Continental," foul had been encouraged. How Mike Channon fumed at the cool and frustrating way he was obstructed by Giacinto Facchetti, when playing against the Italians!

Charter

The 1951 gloss on the laws has virtually been an obstructor's charter. To gloss on the laws has virtually been an obstructor's charter. To make obstruction penalisable by a direct free kick outside the box and a penalty inside it would properly punish it, and cut down on it enormously, above all inside the box.

Mr. Norris goes on to make the following points in favour of abolishing the indirect free kick.

"1. In these days of increased indiscipline, the indirect free kick has nothing to offer as a deterrent. On the contrary, it too often gives advantage to the offending team and under no circumstances in the modern game does the indirect free-kick, as a punishment, fit the crime.

"2. I maintain that the indirect free kick is an unnecessary complication in a game which is basically simple and should be kept as free as possible from artificiality. For example, what purpose does an indirect free kick serve in midfield? Is there anything more innocuous, futile or ineffectual than one of these kicks being taken from a safe position in the middle of the pitch?"

Offside

Here, I utterly fail to follow Mr. Morris' reasoning. Is he seriously suggesting that if you gave a direct free kick for offside, which by definition MUST take place in one's own half of the field, you would make the scoring of a goal from it more likely?

Does he visualise the breeding of a new race of Gargantuas, capable with their terrifying, sixty yard, Big Bertha free kicks of putting the trembling goalkeeper under siege? By definition, a kick taken from fifty or more yards out, pending the arrival of these Gargantuas, must be lofted rather than driven.

Only a very bad goalkeeper indeed, or one confused and betrayed by a powerful wind, is going to let in a goal directly from such a free kick. Innocuous, futile and ineffectual they may be from this point of view, but they are surely nothing of the kind if they gain ground, and give forwards the chance of connecting with head or foot, in the penalty area?

Goals

Mr. Morris' third point is this. "Surely the abolition of the indirect free kick must produce more goals. Not in a glut I admit but, on the principle that goals beget goals, it must be in the interest of the game to support our view. I would go as far as to say that had our proposals applied at that time, Scotland would have reached the last eight of the World Cup.

In the first five minutes against Yugoslavia, Lorimer could have well scored from a free kick, whereas by the time it was

wants to rect kick

by Brian Glanville

rolled to him by Bremner he was smothered by the advancing wall of players. There were also two clear instances against Zaire when the same thing may well have happened."

To this, I can reply only that I remain unconvinced; except to the extent that I believe an obstruction can and should be worth a penalty. Such offences as the goalkeeper carrying the ball too far are certainly not, to my mind, worth a direct free kick. Nor does it seem to me that the indirect free kick particularly complicates the game.

Confusion

I can, however, think of one possible argument in favour of Mr. Morris' proposal which may not have occurred to him. There are times when there is confusion over whether a direct or indirect free kick has been awarded outside the penalty box; times, even, when bad faith is involved. Bill Shankly will know what I mean. I am thinking especially of that deplorable day at San Siro in 1965 when the Spanish referee, Ortiz de Mendebil, awarded an indirect free kick against Liverpool in the return leg semi-final of the European Cup against Inter. Then, when Corso shot directly into the net, he awarded a goal.

What an extraordinary decision it was by the Italians to make the 68-year-old Fulvio Bernardini their new team manager! At least it was a very long step better than giving the job to Italo Allodi, who has never managed a football team in his life, and whose reputation has been built on what may politely be called a flair for public relations.

Not that I wish in any way to denigrate Bernardini, an old friend of mine, and one whose career in football has been simply admirable. He was a marvellous attacking centre-half in the 1920s and early 1930s, for Lazio and Roma, in the meantime gaining a law degree at Rome University.

Vittorio Pozzo dropped him because, determined to base his tactics on those of the pre-Great War Manchester United team, he wanted at centre-half a despatcher, rather than a carrier. In his autobiography, *Dieci Anni Con La Nazionale*, ten years with the international team, a signed copy of which I still treasure, Bernardini tells the story of how Pozzo came up to him and told him (shades of Charlie Buchan and Len Shackleton!) that he was *too* clever, that the other players found it difficult to play with him.

In the 1950s and 1960s, Bernardini succeeded as a manager, winning the Championship both with Fiorentina of Florence, where I first knew him over twenty years ago, and Bologna. In 1939, it was he, in the *Corriere Dello Sport* of Rome, who first explained to Italian readers how the third back game worked, after they had been impressed by England's 2-2 draw in Milan. Happy, innocent Italian days!

It had taken a full six years from England's previous appearance in Italy—a 1-1 draw in Rome—for someone to put his finger on the way they were playing! Nowadays, the Italians are so obsessed with tactics that one cannot imagine the mystery enduring for six days.

At 68, Bernardini characteristically observes that the only difference between him and a 40-year-old coach is that the latter would have twenty years more left in the game. But none of this obscures the fact that his choice, after several years out of club management, is a weird one.

What *has* gone wrong with Artemio Franchi and the Italians? There are moments when these apparently gifted, intelligent, perceptive people seem totally to lose their heads, in the face of what appears to them disaster, and to us, as mere passing adversity.

NORMAN CUTLER

NORMAN CUTLER, for many years the WORLD SOCCER correspondent in Spain, died at his home in Palma de Mallorca last month. He was 63 and had an open heart operation two years ago. Norman enjoyed a long and highly distinguished career in journalism—he was a correspondent in China during the war years and torpedoed four times while on active service—after excelling as a sportsman himself. He was capped by Northampton Cricket Club and was at one time Surrey Golf champion.

After a spell as Sports Editor of Northcliffe Newspapers he moved to Spain for health reasons and became an authority on football there. He was particularly close to Real Madrid and was a confidant of Santiago Bernabeu, the Real President.

He will be sadly missed in Spain, and by WORLD SOCCER readers. We pass on condolences to his wife, Una.

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GATES CRISIS HITS CHILE

IT MAY be that Chile's poor show in the World Cup has made Chileans turn their back on soccer or it may be that the set-up of this season's championship—the "Copa Chile" which has brought the 34 First and Second Division clubs into one tournament—is not interesting the soccer fan.

The fact is that attendances have slumped enormously—so much so that the Chilean FA is seeking government help and failing that, a possible return to amateur soccer.

On a recent week-end the average number of spectators per match was only 800. At fourteen matches there was a total attendance of only 8,930 spectators and only 85 tickets were sold at Santiago's Estadio Nacional, scene of the 1962 World Cup final.

Most clubs have been unable to pay their players wages and one club even had to have a collection to raise the fares for an away fixture. A week later one First Division club, San Luis, declared bankruptcy.

IN ARGENTINA things are a bit better with the average ticket sale per First Division match being only 7,000, but clubs have their members which bring in monthly membership fees.

In the national championship, only in the fourth series of matches came the first real land-slide victory of a Metropoltan First Division team against a semi-professional side from the provinces after earlier matches seemed to indicate that the gap was narrowing.

River Plate beat Mendoza team Huracan by 10-1 to set up the season's scoring record and also help create another record that day—60 goals in the 18 matches (3.3 per game). But another Mendoza Province team, San Martin, top Section D of the championship (jointly with Velez Sarsfield who have not conceded any goals) while their centre-forward, Barroso, tops the scorers table with seven goals—two more than Rosario Central's international, Kempes.

Independiente, a point behind the leaders in Section D, are running into form at the right time to defend their South American championship (Libertadores Cup). Their 3-2 win over Huracan—one of their rivals in the Libertadores Cup semi final group—in the last match should have been bigger. Independiente had more of the ball, dominated the mid-field (with Raimondo outstanding) and attacked more, but showed their old failings in front of goal, although their young Bertoni-Bochini wing was constantly dangerous.

Huracan's leading international players, Babington, Brindisi and Houseman (the latter well marked by Uruguayan World Cup player Pavoni) all failed. In the end it was Pavoni—a prolific scorer from his position of left back—who virtually settled the issue with two penalties.

Boca Juniors, leading Section A, are giving polished performances, while national champions Rosario Central are a point behind. Their defensive methods and counter-attacking, even against weaker teams, does not please their fans, but it gets results. Two teams from each section go into an eight-team final pool and Boca Juniors and Rosario Central seem the most likely candidates from Section A.

A provincial non-league team, Talleres-Cordoba, top Section B by a point from leading scorers River Plate (with 14 goals), but Newell's Old Boys, the Metropolitan champions, haven't quite got into their stride yet in this section.

But San Lorenzo, topping Section C with the only 100 per cent record—all four games won—are setting the championship alight. Yet in their last game (before press time) against Racing Club they didn't show much in winning 3-0. Racing continue to play without a definite plan and have the worst record of the big clubs with only two points from four games. San Lorenzo deservedly went ahead through Rezza following one of coach Zubeldia's (of Estudiantes de La Plata fame) "blackboard" corners, but with San Lorenzo then trying to "freeze" the game, it didn't look as if there would be any more goals until a substitute was brought on in the last 10 minutes to score two more.

Meanwhile the exodus of Argentina's leading players continues. World Cup defender Enrique Wolff was transferred by River Plate to Las Palmas (Spain) for 80,000 dollars—a low price. Wolff didn't want to leave Argentina, but was having trouble with club officials. What decided him was the 50,000 dollars he got out of the deal.

Babington and Brindisi are being sought by several European clubs and Huracan will sell if the price is right. There is plenty of star material to take their places here, but to build a successful national team one needs not only star material, but also experience . . . and the experienced players continue to leave.

Huracan's goalkeeper Leyes stops the ball as Independiente's forward Bechini jumps over him. Independiente won 3-2 in this National Championship match.

STANDINGS

PARAGUAY—First Division (end of second round): 1. Cerro Porteno 28 pts., 2. Olimpia 25, 3. Sportivo Luqenuo & Libertad 19, 5. Nacional 18, 6. Rubio Nu 16, 7. Guarani & General Caballero 15, 9. River Plate 13, 10. Sol de America 12. (Top eight teams play on in third round).

PERU — National Championship (20 matches): 1. Universitario & Union Huaral 33; 3. Alianza Lima 28; 4. Defensor Lima 27; 5. Juan Aurich 25; 6. Municipal 24; 7. Sporting Cristal, Union Tuman 23; 9. Colegio Nacional Iquitos, Melgar 22; 11. Atletico Chalaco, Cienciano 21; 13. Alfonso Ugarte 20; 14. Sport Boys, Leon de Huanuco 19; 16. Atletico Grau, Pierola 18; 18. Walter Ormeno, Deportivo Junin 15; 20. Pesquero 13; 21. Frigorifico 12; 22. Carlos Mannucci 11.

Rezza (7) heads in from a corner to score for San Lorenzo in spite of a crowd of Racing players. San Lorenzo won 3-0.

SOUTH AMERICAN ROUND-UP

by ERIC WEIL

COLOMBIA — First Division (2nd championship—6 games): Group A— 1. Dep. Cali 9; 2. Nacional, Independiente Santa Fe 7; 4. Junior 6; 5. America, Medellin 5; 7. Millionarios 4. Group B—1. Cucuta 8; 2. Pereira, Tolima 7; 4. Bucamaranga 5; 5. Union Magdalena, Cristal Caldas 4.

BRAZIL—Sao Paulo State League: 1. Portuguesa (played 6) 10 pts.; 2. Santos (5) 8; 3. Juventus (6) 7; 4. Guarani (3), Sao Paulo (3), Ponte Preta (3), Corinthians (4) 4; 8. Saad (3), Sao Bento (3) 3; 10. Palmeiras (3), Comercial (3), Botafogo (5), America (6) 2; 1. Noreste (3) 1.

Carioca (Rio) League: 1. Fluminense, Vasco da Gama, America 6; 4. Bonsucesso 5; 5. Madureira 4; 6. Botafogo, Flamengo, Sao Cristovao 3; 9. Portuguesa, Campo Grande 2; 11. Bangu 1; 12. Olaria 0.

ARGENTINA — National Championship (four games): Section A—1. Boca Juniors 7; 2. Rosario Central, Banfield 6; 4. Central Norte (Salta) 5; 5. Estudiantes de La Plata 4; 6. Belgrano (Cordoba), All Boys 3; 8. Sp. Desamparados (San Juan), Puerto Comercial-Bahia Blanca 2. Section B—1. Talleres (Cordoba) 7; 2. River Plate 6; 3. Argentinos Juniors, Newell's Old Boys (Rosario), Altos Hornos Zapla (Jujuy) 5; 6. Gimnasia y Esgrima La Plata 3; 7. Jorge Newbery (Junin) 2; 8. Colon (Santa Fe) 1; 9. Huracan (San Rafael) 0. Section C—1. San Lorenzo 8; 2. Chacarita Juniors 6; 3. San Martin (Tucuman) 5; 4. FC Oeste, Aldesivi (M. del Plata) 4; 6. Atletico Regina (Rio Negro) 3; 7. Racing Club, Gedoy Cruz (Mendoza) 2; 9. Mandiyu (Corrientes) 0. Section D—1. San Martin (Mendoza), Velez Sarsfield 7; 3. Independiente 6; 4, Huracan, Huracan (C. Rivadavia) 4; 6. Chaco For Ever, Atletico Tucuman 3; 8. Atlanta, San Lorenzo (M. del Plata) 2.

TWO new committees were formed in Argentina to prepare for the 1978 World Cup finals to be held there, as a result of a meeting with government sports secretary Pedro Eladio Vasquez and FA officials.

At their first session a possible starting date for the event was discussed and October 12 (1978) was agreed upon—although International Football Federation rules state that World Cup finals must start in June or July.

FIFA officials—including newly elected president Joao Havelange of Brazil—have been invited for the international match between Argentina and Spain (for the "Hispanidad" Cup) to be played in Buenos Aires on October 12. On that occasion FIFA officials will look over installations for the World Cup finals, while Argentine officials will insist about the possibility of an October start for the 1978 finals.

Officials

There's a joke going the rounds where one Argentine FA official asks another: "Once we've shown the FIFA delegation our stadia and hotels, what do we do with them for the rest of the day?" It's ironic, but it's true—there isn't much to show, but Argentine officials consider everything will be all right on the day.

At the next committee session it was decided that games will be played in Buenos Aires, Mar del Plata, Rosario, Mendoza and Cordoba—with Corrientes and Tucuman as alternative sites in case of problems. This may not be the final word. As soon as the list was published, pressure was put on the organisers—at political level—to have matches played in Tucuman, Corrientes and Salta.

As it is, fans will be in for quite a lot of travelling. Of the sites chosen, the nearest to Buenos Aires is the Atlantic sea-side resort of Mar del Plata—450 kilometres away.

The locations picked outside Buenos Aires are those where the biggest gates have been taken for national championship matches. In Buenos Aires, the stadia of the River Plate and Velez Sarsfield clubs—both holding about 80,000 spectators—have been chosen for World Cup games—including, of course, the final—but more about this later.

The World Cup committees—one formed by FA officials and the other by government officials—plan to meet every week.

Session

The Argentine national team was not disbanded—as usually happens after the World Cup—nor was coach Vladislao Cap sacked.

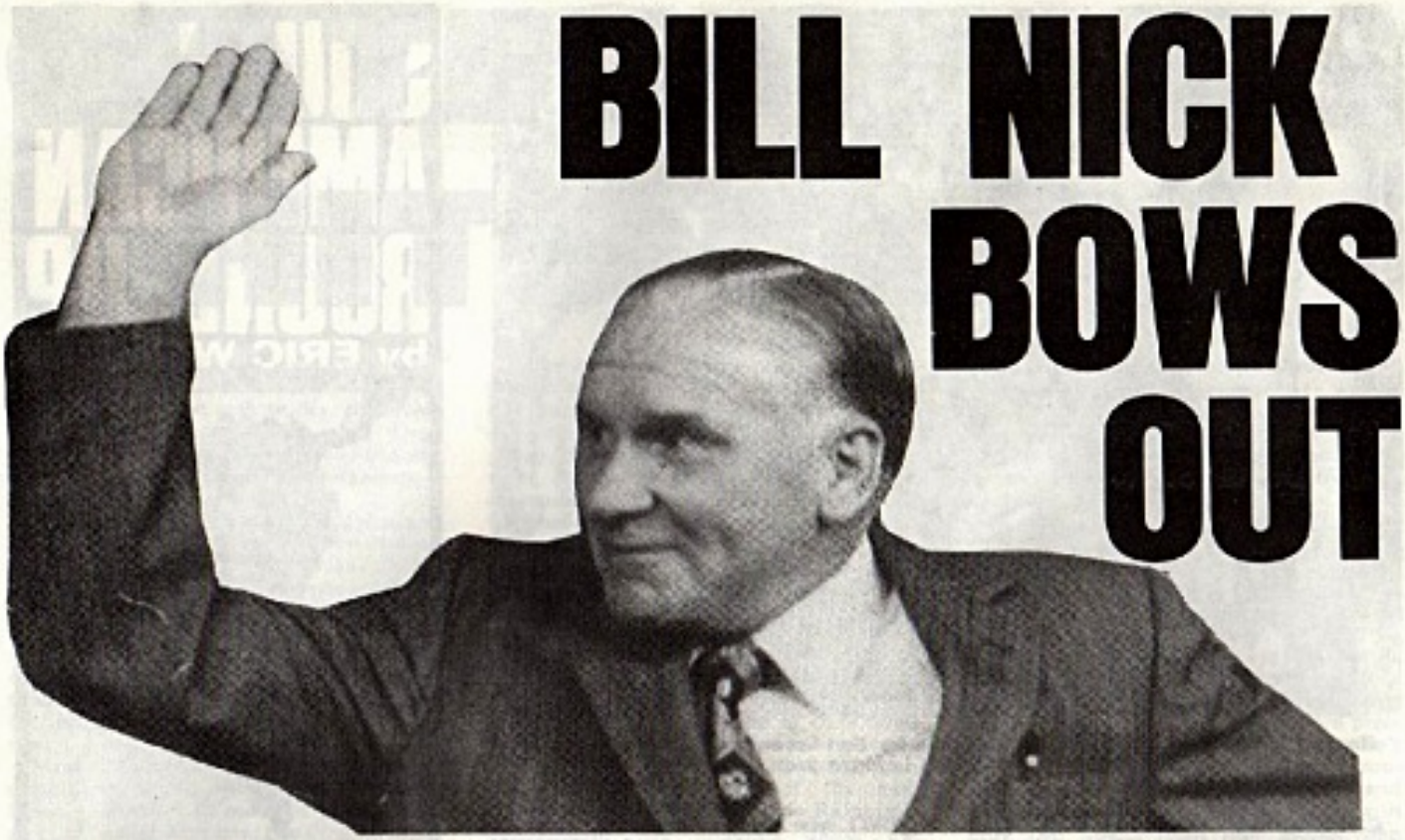
With a couple of matches scheduled in Brazil in September and the international against Spain in October, the squad continues weekly training, but somewhat disorganised. Only 12 of 18 players called up turned up at the last session.

The "Libertadores" Cup

The semi-finals of the South American club championship, for the "Libertadores" Cup, were scheduled to start on September 4, with holders Independiente (Argentina), Huracan (Argentina) and Penarol (Uruguay) in group A—which appears to be the stronger—and Millionarios (Colombia), Sao Paulo (Brazil) and Defensor Lima (Peru) in group B.

Teams in each group meet each other home and away and the group winners meet in the final, also home and away.

BILL NICK BOWS OUT



AN AUGUST Bank Holiday Monday I had the pleasure of playing for the ex-Spurs All Stars team as a late replacement for one of their famous players who had had to withdraw. On the way back from the game I remarked to the team manager that I thought Bill Nicholson might be on the brink of retiring in view of the poor response he was having from his team who had just suffered their third defeat in a row.

About an hour later we bought an evening paper and there in a bold statement was the news that 'Bill Nick' was going to be made general manager. It was the following Thursday whilst at the Rothman's football year book reception, (and after the side's fourth defeat) that I heard he had finally resigned.

Stemmed

The reason that I believed on the Bank Holiday Monday that Nicholson was thinking of retiring stemmed from having heard him speak after several matches in recent seasons, but more particularly as a result of an interview I conducted with him a couple of seasons ago. Even at that time Bill was making the kind of remarks which appear to have now decided him to quit.

So far as the transfer market was concerned I had asked whether it was easy to buy players and what were the pitfalls. He had replied: "The problems with buying first class players are many and the really high prices that are paid do not always guarantee complete satisfaction. High prices would suggest that you are purchasing the finished article and that the player has already developed those aspects in his play which give him the skill to perform in the way which has caused him to be the attraction in the first place and the reason for which he is being bought.

"However there are many other factors, including a player's background which determine if and when to buy. Furthermore it has not been easy to buy players in recent seasons as either the player or the club is unwilling to agree to the move. I cannot always buy the player I want and in fact, it may seem trite but is nevertheless true that I can more often only buy the players that are available.

"Therefore a manager may be forced to buy a player to fill a position needing urgent attention, who does not quite match up to the ideal that the manager has. It may in fact be necessary to buy on a temporary basis to fill the gap."

Whilst mulling these points over I queried with him the effect of more money in the game for players. In his usual forthright way he said:

"Whilst I am not advocating a return to the maximum wage, I would say that its abolition has had a bad effect on some clubs and some of the players in the game. There are many players who are earning a lot of money but as some clubs are carrying considerably smaller staffs nowadays this has caused a contraction in the number of professional players amongst league teams, which in turn makes the obtaining of top class players in the transfer market more difficult.

Obtained

"We have therefore obtained a very strong youth team and I believe for us this is a better system. It would be an even better system if the play of the schoolboys who join us at youth level was improved. We believe in a youth team policy and so we have concentrated more recently on scouting for youth and our coaching facilities at youth level have vastly improved under Pat Welton and Ron Henry.

"By trying to keep the youngsters together as a team it gives them confidence and a chance to express themselves. Thus you can make the good things a habit, which I consider to be of the utmost importance and these good habits will serve a boy well in the future."

Finally I asked him about the skill factors in modern players. He gave a rueful look as he responded:

"At top level the application of any skill has to be automatic. Players have to face various situations which arise during the game and they must react to them quickly. When the heat of the game is on the player does not get time to think.

Automatic

"He has to do what comes naturally to him and his performance is automatic. In other words he has cultivated habits for dealing with situations, which have grown up with him. If the player has learned good habits he will react in a way which will combat the situation but if he has learned bad ones he will be unable to cope satisfactorily with the situation.

"When a manager buys an expensive and experienced player he hopes he is not also buying too many bad habits because the problem of correcting them in this type of player is as hard as trying to teach an old dog new tricks."

The devotion to Tottenham that Bill Nicholson has given has been well mirrored in Hunter Davies's study of him in the *Glory Game*. Anyone who has heard him talk about his beloved Spurs, and particularly the teams of the early sixties will know that such a resignation has cost him much emotional strain and anguish.

As has been said about Bill Nicholson in the press and on television, football cannot afford to lose him from the game altogether and nor can Tottenham Hotspur.

BARCELONA SHOCK SLIP

A look at Spain, Belgium & Portugal with Jack Rollin

ALL conquering Barcelona, title winners in Spain last season, received a rude shock when they lost their opening game 3-2 to Real Sociedad.

At one stage Barcelona were three goals down and scored twice in the last five minutes to make the score look respectable. It was a miserable experience for the Dutch pair Johan Cruyff and Johan Neeskens and the hero of the game was Sociedad's striker Araquistain, who scored twice in the first half to put his team well on the road to success.

While Barcelona were smarting over this reverse, Real Madrid their great rivals were winning well at Valencia. Yet after five minutes Real were behind thanks to a goal from Salif Keita, the one-time St. Etienne star and African Footballer of the Year. And it took them an hour to get on terms when Roberto Martinez, one of their close season captures, equalised in the 67th minute. Then three minutes from the end Gunter Netzer scored the winning goal.

Netzer's former West German colleague Paul Breitner also had a useful debut for the club, now managed by Yugoslavian team manager Miljan Miljanic.

Atletico Madrid could do nothing better than draw 0-0 at Manzanares with Granada, but Las Palmas had a useful 3-1 win over Betis.

Las Palmas have signed Enrique Wolff, the former Argentinian international captain who impressed at full-back before and during the World Cup. He has linked up with Daniel Carnevali the Argentinian international goalkeeper.

Altogether there are 59 foreigners playing for Spanish clubs. One of the newcomers quickly on the scoring mark was Dick Van Dijk, the former Ajax striker who scored the opening goal in the 1971 European Cup Final at Wembley for his former Dutch club.

Van Dijk was one of Murcia's scorers in their 2-2 draw away to Hercules. After leaving Holland he had a spell playing in France.

Unbeaten

THE new professional League set up in Belgium started with the champions Anderlecht unbeaten after four matches along with RWD Molenbeek, but with Antwerp top of the table with three wins and one defeat suffered against newly promoted SC Lokeren who beat them 4-2.

Lokeren earlier crashed 5-0 to Anderlecht and have three ex-Anderlecht players in their ranks in Johan Devrindt, Wilfrid Puis and Johnny Velkeneers. Anderlecht also took it out on another of their old colleagues, full-back Jean Cornelis who now controls the fortunes of Second Division Louviere. Anderlecht trounced them 6-1 in the Cup.

Anderlecht have signed Erwin Van Den Daele from Bruges and Jean Thissen from Standard Liege which gives them an all international back four, completed by Hugo Broos and Gilbert Van Binst. They have also added Guy Nicolaes, the Beerschot striker to boost the attack.

Trouble of different natures at Liege, where bottles were thrown by Standard fans after they lost 2-1 to Bruges following a controversial penalty incident. And FC Liege have lost their manager Victor Wegria, who left after he accused the club president of trying to pick the team. Wegria did not want to include Henri Depireux, while the management felt otherwise.

The 20 club First Division will be reduced in two years to 18 by a process of having three clubs relegated and only two promoted in the next two seasons.

RWD Molenbeek's Jacques Teugels shot into an early lead among the goal-scorers with four of his club's first six goals. And when he came on as substitute three minutes from the end of his international appearance for Belgium against Iceland he managed to get himself fouled and Wilfried Van Moer scored from the spot to give the Belgians a more respectable 2-0 victory in this opening European Championship match.

RWD who are still against the idea of increased professionalism now in operation appear not to be suffering from the situation. But clubs like Bruges, Standard, Anderlecht and Antwerp have adhered to the call for signing at least 13 players as full-time professionals.

Discussion

THE League championship in Portugal did not get away to a very good start, with an eleventh hour discussion about the actual size of the First Division. A 20 team fixture list was even drawn up, but after a big row it all went back to the usual 16 team formation.

And the wisdom of playing in a tournament in Brazil only a few days before the new season was put in doubt when Sporting Lisbon the champions returned from losing 6-0 to Cruzeiro in Belo Horizonte and minus several first team players injured including leading scorer Hector Yazalde. They were beaten by modest Olhanense 1-0.

Best performance of the day was Vitoria Guimaraes 5-0 win over newly promoted Sporting De Espinho, with striker Jeremias getting two of the goals. And not even the presence of a gentleman called Pele in the Espinho side could help them . . .

Johan Neeskens and Johan Cruyff pictured at the Real Sociedad Stadium where Barcelona were beaten.

Benfica did not play on the opening day but returned from a lengthy tour of North America where scores of 4-2, 4-3 and 5-3 against varying opposition, brought the inevitable questions to new Manager Pavic, about the defence.

He replied: "Yes, you have a point. But the formation we adopt is aimed at getting goals and if we get more than our opponents I am happy."

But after losing 4-2 to a French national team selection, Pavic admitted that the goals conceded had all been the result of defensive errors. A new face with the Estoril Eagles this season is left winger Ibraim formerly with Vitoria Guimaraes.

Porto under the tutelage of Aimore Moreira, the Brazilian trainer of wide experience, are hoping to do well this season. They started by beating CUF Barreiro 2-1 thanks to two goals from their left winger Gomes and this should take some of the weight off the shoulders of the usual scoring duo of Abel and Flavio, with Peruvian international Teofilo Cubillas now operating more as a midfield player.

Olympic plans get the go-ahead

THE Canadian Organising Committee of the 1976 Olympic Games announced in Montreal in August that soccer matches in the XXI Olympiad would be played in the Canadian cities of Ottawa and Toronto in Ontario and in Montreal the main site and in Sherbrooke, Quebec.

Thirty two matches will be played during the games between July 17 and August 1, 1976 with 12 in Montreal, 8 in Toronto, seven at Ottawa and five in Sherbrooke.

In Montreal the games will be played in the 70,000 seat Olympic Stadium being built at the Olympic Park site, while in Ottawa games will be played in 26,000 seat Lansdowne Park. Sherbrooke's Amedee Roy Stadium with a seating capacity of 10,000 is the other stadium chosen in Quebec.

Varsity

However, the best known stadium chosen as far as soccer people are concerned is Varsity Stadium in Toronto site of many of the more spectacular soccer games played in Canada in recent years. Varsity is well known to soccer players all across the world as one of the best soccer grounds in North America.

Currently it has a seating capacity of 21,700 but this can be enlarged to 27,000 with very little trouble and certainly by the time that 1976 rolls around we will probably see improvements resulting in a capacity of around 30,000.

In making a decision in favour of these four stadiums it seems certain that FIFA and the IOC totally rejected the idea of playing any of the final round games on artificial turf. The synthetic surface has been severely criticized by European players who have played on it in North America, and the decision in favour of natural grass will be a popular one.

Colin Jose from the USA and Canada

AZTECS FACE TOROS IN NASL FINAL

THE Los Angeles Aztecs will meet the Miami Toros in this year's North American Soccer League Championship Game to be played at the Orange Bowl in Miami. The Aztecs, a new club this year, dominated the Western Division all year while the Miami Toros topped the Eastern Division which had been led for most of the year by Baltimore.

Six teams qualified for the NASL playoff this year—the four division winners plus two wild card teams, that is those teams with the highest number of points other than the divisional winners. Under this system the San Jose Earthquakes and the Baltimore Comets qualified to join the champions Boston, Dallas, Miami and Los Angeles.

In the so called quarter finals the Dallas Tornado beat San Jose 3-0 in Dallas while the Boston Minutemen edged Baltimore 1-0 in Boston. Dallas and Boston thus advanced to the semi-finals where the Minutemen were beaten 2-0 in Los Angeles by the Aztecs while Miami defeated Dallas 3-1 in Miami.

Assists

Former Aston Villa player Paul Child won this years scoring race scoring 15 goals in 20 games for the San Jose Earthquakes, his six assists gave him a total of 36 points, five more than Southend United player Peter Silvester who played for Baltimore. Barry Watling of Seattle was the top goalkeeper statistically.

Coach John Young of the Miami Toros won the "Coach of the Year" award while Doug McMillan of the Los Angeles Aztecs who played two games for the United States last year was voted the best new young player.

At the conclusion of the regular season the NASL All Star team was selected as follows. Barry Watling (Seattle): Dick Hall and Albert Jackson (Dallas Tornado), Chris Dunleavy (Philadelphia Atoms), Geoff Butler (Baltimore Comets): Ronnie Sharp (Miami Toros), Ilija Mitic (Dallas Tornado), Roberto Aguirre (Miami Toros): Paul Child (San Jose Earthquakes), John Rowlands (Seattle Sounders), Peter Silvester (Baltimore Comets).

NASL Commissioner Phil Woosnam has announced the granting of franchises to the cities of Tampa, Florida and San Antonio, Texas for the 1975 season in effect bringing the total number of teams up to 17. The NASL is prepared to award up to three more franchises for 1975 bringing the total number of teams up to 20 providing all the present teams operate next year.

One of the present teams in considerable trouble financially are the Toronto Metros whose president Bruce Thomas has announced that the club is up for sale. Thomas is also reported to have received an offer from a group in Mexico City who would like to move the team to the Mexican capital, as well as from three prospective buyers in Toronto.

Capacity

The Metros had a disasterous season at the gate this year in the highly competative Toronto soccer market, while clubs like the San Jose Earthquakes and the Seattle Sounders played to near capacity crowds.

In the 12-nation CONCACAF Youth Tournament currently being played in Canada the national youth team of the United States surprised a good number of people by defeating Guatemala 2-1 to win their first ever youth international. In their second game the United States held Cuba to a goalless draw. The Canadian team coasted to wins in their first two games beating Bermuda 4-1 and the Dominican Republic 5-0.

Meanwhile Mexico, who are the favourites, trounced poor Puerto Rico 16-0 in their opening game. Six teams will qualify for the play offs but right now the outcome of the tournament seems to rest between Canada, Cuba, Mexico and the United States.

The United States Soccer Federation announced at their annual meeting in New York that they have appointed former FIFA head coach Dettmar Cramer as Director of Coaching and coach of the U.S. national teams.

Did Clough stand a chance?

Jack Rollin looks for some of the answers

"IS there anything on the sports page about Brian Clough being sacked by Leeds?", I asked, not really believing that it would happen as a colleague picked up the early edition of an evening newspaper. "No," came the reply.

But the same evening as I was driving home the 6.30 p.m. news bulletin on Radio 2 Began by..."we have just heard that Brian Clough has been sacked by Leeds United. There are no further details at the moment."

After that came the less important stuff like the financial plight of the country, Son of Watergate, etc.

That very morning there had been strong denials that the Leeds United players had passed a vote of no confidence in Clough. Chairman Manny Cussins said that the players had met him and another director Sam Bolton at the request of Cussins himself and Clough had attended the meeting.

Cussins commnted: "I have not heard of any vote of no confidence. I saw them play last night at Huddersfield in the League Cup and they were quite happy."

Clough said: "I have heard nothing about a vote of no confidence. This absolutely staggers me."

On Thursday morning the BBC-TV sent a unit to film Brian Clough, a move which had been made before everything blew up. Barry Davies was the interviewer. The interview had to be postponed because everything was beginning to happen.

Clough's stormy petrel of an association with Leeds ended when the club's vice-chairman Percy Woodward issued a statement after a meeting with the Leeds board:

Released

"Mr. Clough has been released from his contract — a contract which didn't exist. He is no longer manager."

Away in Majorca on holiday was Mr. Bob Roberts the Leeds director who had along with Chairman Cussins persuaded Clough to join them from Brighton in the first place.

Roberts said that he was "shocked" and that he was "sorry I wasn't there to take part in the discussion."

Clough lasted 53 days as Manager and only 43 actually in charge of the League champions. During this time Leeds lost the Charity Shield to Liverpool and took only four points from six League games. And they won only one game when they beat Birmingham City 1-0.

But anyone who took over from Clough was likely to have his problems at Leeds. It was just that having Clough as Don Revie's successor was like Karl Marx becoming leader of the Conservative Party.

Clough had been the most severe of all Leeds critics and particularly of Revie's attitude to the game. The two managers became highly critical of each other.

Years of Revie rule at Elland Road made him something of a father figure and just taking over the England team manager's job meant that he had not really left them for another club — just promotion elsewhere. His influence remained.

Clough signed Duncan McKenzie from Nottingham Forest and when injuries and suspension took their toll of the Leeds senior ranks he went back to his former club Derby to sign John O'Hare and John McGovern. And the Derby trainer Jimmy Gordon also joined him.

Leeds players denied that there had been any pressure from them to get rid of Clough. But there seems little reason to doubt that they would have probably not taken to Clough whether he had not signed other players or not.

And the truth is probably near the words of Brian Clough's former boss at Hartlepool. Ex-chairman John Curry the club director who first gave Clough his chance in management said: "I think Leeds have been very foolish.

"In my view the only reason why the Leeds players — and I'm convinced they are responsible — should do this to Brian is because they resented his demand for discipline on the field."

"The board appointed a manager but at this rate the next thing will be for players somewhere to decide they don't like the chairman. Then what happens?"

The players at Leeds issued a statement that they "deplored the suggestion that player power was responsible for Mr. Clough's dismissal. Nothing could be further from the truth."

Comment

The final comment comes from Cussins, the man who appointed him and the man who dismissed him: "What has been done is for the good of Leeds United. The club and the happiness of the players come first. Nothing can be successful unless the staff is happy."

There does not seem to be any more clear-cut reason why Clough had to go when this statement is read. Clough will bounce back, he invariably does. And though the person who eventually takes over Leeds will inherit some of the problems that living in the shadow of Don Revie's former presence will inevitably bring, he will presumably not start off with the same record of anti-Leeds feeling Clough had before he was appointed as their manager.

Brian Clough—all smiles despite the news from Leeds.

Clough explained: "I have a reasonably substantial payment. There was a moral agreement which we have decided to honour."

Clough has said that Leeds have lost the best manager they could have had in succession to Revie. He could well be right. But there was no chance that he was going to be given the opportunity to prove it at Elland Road.

COLLINS BOUNCES BACK YET AGAIN

by Eric Thornton

BOBBY Collins, that glutton for punishment since the far-away fifties, is at it again, learning a new job the hard way, as he always seems to have done ever since I first knew him.

This time, the elevator to another floor has landed him a Third Division team with a First Division briefing, and already he is recognising that the job may be even tougher than was anticipated.

That may be fairly easy to understand on examination of the facts, for he has now become the guide and mentor of a club that is searching for its lost fashionable tag—Huddersfield Town, Britain's top outfit of the twenties, when they were almost always in the queue for prizes.

Strange writing. For somehow most folk had never visualised this pint-sized ball wizard in a hot seat, though a wonderful playing record automatically provided sufficient references for the responsibilities of managership.

Actually, there could hardly be a better recruit for the job. Because he has not only served Celtic, Everton, Leeds and Bury with distinction, but can also look back on a great 15-year international career.

Does that impress? It should. As it no doubt did the board of the old Yorkshire club, now squirming in the shadow of those same Leeds neighbours who for many years, especially between the wars, always used to trail behind.

It was thought at one time that this 43-year-old with definite views about the sport and its future, would be stepping up into Don Revie's shoes at Elland Road. It didn't turn out that way because that man Clough breezed in.

So Mister Collins stayed put as coach to the new Second Division members Oldham Athletic until the right message came over The Pennines, and he moved to a town whose athletic loyalties are split between soccer and rugger.

Echelon

If the cards are stacked well, Huddersfield will be moving up again very soon, for the new boss always seems to have promotion as a partner. Proof? Leeds returned to the top echelon with him in their ranks. It was the same with Bury, and then again with Oldham.

Now what? A very interesting period for this son of Glasgow, maturing product of Celtic Park, and former idol of Goodison's thousands, for whom he used to haul himself up to such heights that supporters forgot he normally had the Devil's own job reaching to a miserly 5 foot 3 inches in stockinged feet.

None of those Merseysiders will ever need reminding of the ripple of anger that spread over the river and up the west coast when, suddenly, and out of the blue, it was announced that Leeds had taken possession.

There were some, I know, who wondered whether the better days were over for this hunk of granite and dynamo, then saw Bobby prove that the Hill of Life was higher than many anticipated.

First brick in Revie's great build up, and regarded by The Den as his greatest-ever buy, Collins gradually began explaining to the rest of the staff what professionalism was about, and not just a dirty word.

Then came a disaster that would have left 99 per cent convalescing for the rest of their lives, and bemoaning the quirks of Fate. He broke a leg in a Fairs Cup game on Torino's pitch, and at the dicey age of 33.

Shattered

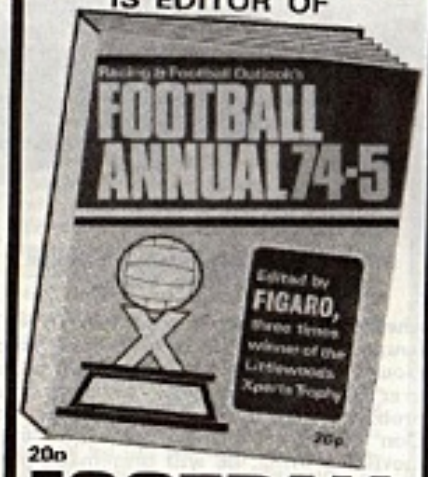
They rushed him to hospital, gathered the shattered pieces together as in a jig-saw puzzle, pushed a 12-inch pin through the whole length of the thigh bone, and the surgeons opined that he might play again.

He did, of course. Those size three slippers were pressed into service once more. And all the stops were pulled out again for Leeds. Just as they always were for all his other teams.

Now, after 27 years in the game, this human machine is aiming for success in another sphere. Talk's easy, but the know-how is there, and he looks a good bet once the squad has been finally sorted out, and the miseries of the past forgotten.

Pay attention! Robert Collins, the mighty midget, is determined to make the grade, and underline his personal surprise at not having been offered a top post ages ago!

FIGARO
THREE TIMES BRITAIN'S CHAMPION FORECASTER (Sporting Life Xperts table) IS EDITOR OF



20p
FOOTBALL ANNUAL
From your newsagent or bookstall or direct 24½p from Subs. Dept., 79 Temple Chambers, London, EC4Y 0EX.

Huddersfield Town 1974.

World Soccer Book Reviews

What, no World Cup details?

"THE 1974 World Cup in West Germany is the highspot of the year's football calendar. International Football Book, from its experience of four previous World Cups, brings you an unrivalled in-depth coverage of the personalities, teams and background stories of this, the ultimate in soccer competition."

That is the introduction which **Souvenir Press** has the outrageous audacity to give the sleeve notes for the **International Football Book No. 16.**

So many annuals are forced down our throats nowadays that the desire to steal a march on one's rivals by bringing forward your publication date is understandable.

Shops gear themselves for the Christmas spending spree at the start of September anyway, so the appearance on the bookshelves already of this volume is nothing to be wondered at.

Sacrificed

What I do query, most seriously however, is whether Souvenir Press may have not have sacrificed far too much in editorial credibility to an early publication.

In only the first 36 pages — if you can find the page numbers, that is — we have Allan Clarke singing fulsome praise of Don Revie, *his manager at Leeds;* Gerry Muhren saying how important Johan Neeskens is *to Ajax;* and George Armstrong explaining the role of Ray Kennedy *at Arsenal.* Oh dear.

But these are minor points; any football annual can be caught out by the transfer market.

What most concerns me is the absolute lack of "live" football in the book. When you boast such a title as International Football Book, it is surely asking too much to expect people to pay £1.50 for something which carries no reference to the outcome of the World Cup — which was, after all, the major international soccer event of the last four years!

There are ghosted pieces by Luis Pereira, Hans-Jürgen Kreische, Gerd Müller and so on. But all are carefully honed so that nothing which happened in West Germany — short of an Arab massacre — could upset them.

Preparation of the book was too far advanced even to include anything about the European club competitions.

Perhaps this explains the choice of Walter Winterbottom for what is described as "Football Sword of Honour 1974." Not that I am in any way decrying the man's merits, or the importance of his work. But his selection is such a patently safe choice in a year when the memories that linger will be those of players rather than officials.

Whatever the publication date — September 26 in this case — this book, like all the other football annuals is aimed at the Christmas stocking. But I fear that anyone receiving this will be tempted to bury it under the Christmas tree, because if it is out of date now, what it will be like by December 25 I hardly dare to think.

There are a few errors in fact — one writer, in his enthusiastic efforts to praise a player reversed the result of a Champions Cup semi-final! — but I am humbly aware that we all make mistakes, and if you discount the extremely serious limitations of the publication process the contributors do maintain a high standard — as you might expect with World Soccer contributors Brian Glanville and Eric Batty involved.

The attempts to gloss over the lack of the World Cup are not particularly well done however. A string of pictures from Mexico (!) and a headline "Gianni Rivera, the mainspring of the Italian attack," draw glaring attention to the missing link.

But the ultimate insult is reserved for the very last page, where *the reader is invited to fill in the World Cup results himself!* That's an addition which reduces to a farcical level the concluding sleeve note:

"With 150 special photographs as well as such regular features as the year's soccer statistics and the Top 20, it's easy to see why the International Football Book remains first choice all round the world for the football follower who really cares."

If this book is first choice, I despair for the quality of its rivals. Perhaps the three-day week had something to do with it...

*** International Football Book No. 16; Souvenir Press. £1.50.**

Short, fictional stories from the distinguished pen of Brian Glanville are renown and **Queen Anne Press** have put together 14 of Brian's pieces under the title *Goalkeepers Are Crazy and other football stories.* In this era of inflation the asking price of 45p is pleasantly cheap. Highly recommended.

KEIR RADNEDGE

Johan Neeskens in action for Barcelona against his former club Ajax in the Gamper Trophy.

LINE-UPS AND

SEPTEMBER 1
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Finland (1) 1 (Rahja)
Poland (1) 2 (Szarmach, Lato) 19,000

Finland: Alaja; Forsell, Toivo, Vihtila, Ranta, Soumalainen, Rahja, Heikkinen, Toivola, Pasteiainen, Upakkalainen.
Poland: Tomaszewski; Szymanowski, Gorgon, Musial, Bulzacki, Maszczyk, Kasperczak, Cmikiewicz, Lato, Szarmach, Gadocha.

SEPTEMBER 4

Switzerland (1) 1 (Muller)
West Germany (2) 2 (Cullmann, Geye) 48,000

Switzerland: Burgener; Valentini, Guyot, Bizzini, Stierli, Kuhn, Meyer (Rutschmann), Botteron (Ruh), Schnoebeger (Schild), Muller, Jeandupeux.
West Germany: Maier; Vogts, Beckenbauer, Schwarzenbeck (Kapellmann), Helmut Kremers, Cullmann, Bonhof, Hoeness, Geye, Holzenbein (Seel), Herzog.

Sweden (0) 1 (Bo Larsson pen.)
Holland (2) 5 (Cruyff, Neeskens 3, 1 pen., Rensenbrink) 34,527

Sweden: Hellstrom; Andersson (R) (Olsson), Karlsson, Crongvist, Andersson (B), Grahn, Bo Larsson, Tapper (Ljungberg), Magnusson (Sjostrom), Sandberg, Ahlstrom.
Holland: Jongbloed; Suurbier, De Jong, Schneider, Krol, Haan (Peeters), Neeskens, Van Hanegem (Nanninga), Rep (Resed), Cruyff, Rensenbrink.

Luxembourg (0)
West Germany B (0) 5 (Nickel 2, Reimann, Ohlicher 2) 5,000

Luxembourg: Thill; Hansen, Fiorghi, Zeang, Fandel, Pilot (Monscelli), Philipp, Trierweiler, Di Domenico (Devilet), Braun, Langers.
West Germany: Franke (Kargus), Kultz, Zimmermann, Trinklein, Dietz (Konopka), Kostedt (Bongartz), Schaefer, Nickel, Seliger, Reimann (Ohlicher), Worm.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Austria (0) 2 (Kreuz, Krankl)
Wales (1) 1 (Griffiths) 35,000

Austria: Retzenmeiner; Winklhofer, Eigenstiller, Krieger, Krieg, Weiser, Starek, Schlaghamer (Kogelberger), Sturing, Kreuz, Krankl.
Wales: Sprake; Roberts (P), Roberts (J), Roberts (D), Phillips, Mahoney, Yorath, Griffiths, Reece, Toshack, James.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Norway (0) 2 (Lund 2)
Northern Ireland (1) 1 (Finney) 7,200

Norway: Karlsen; Gog, Brakstad, Birkeland, Grondalen, Aalthoe, Johansen, Kvia, Fugleri, Lund, Hestad.
Northern Ireland: Jennings; Rice, Craig (Dowd), O'Kane, Hunter, Clements, Hamilton, Cassidy, Finney, McIlroy, McGrath (Jackson).

Poland (1) 1 (Lato)
East Germany (2) 3 (Kurbjuweit, Vogel, Dorner) 30,000

Poland: Tomaszewski; Szymanowski, Gorgon, Musial, Bulzacki, Maszczyk, Deyna, Cmikiewicz, Lato, Szarmach, Gadocha.
East Germany: Croy; Kische, Weise, Bransch, Watzlich, Kurbjuweit, Tyll, Dorner, Hoffmann, Schellenberg, Vogel.

SEPTEMBER 8

Poland (0) 0
France (2) 2 (Coste, Jodar) 40,000

Poland: Tomaszewski; Szymanowski, Wieczorek, Bulzacki (Drzewiecki), Sobczynski, Kopiczyn, Deyna, Cmikiewicz (Maszczyk), Lato, Kapka, Gadocha.
France: Bertrand-Demanes; Jodar, Adams, Trossat, Bracci, Michel (Merchadier), Huck, Guillou, Giresse (Patrick Revelli), Coste, Berta.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Iceland (0) 0
Belgium (1) 2 (Van Moer 2,1 pen.) 10,000

Belgium: Piot; Van Binst, Broos, Van Den Daele, Cosck (Coeck), Van Himst, Verheyen, Van Moer, Van Der Elst, Janssens (Teugels), Henrotay.

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Antwerp	**4**	**3**	**0**	**1**	**9**	**5**	**6**
Anderlecht	4	2	2	0	10	2	6
RWD Molen.	4	2	2	0	6	2	6
Lierse	4	2	1	1	4	2	5
Charleroi SC	4	2	1	1	5	4	5
FC Liege	4	2	1	1	4	3	5
FC Malinois	4	2	1	1	4	3	5
Beveren	4	1	3	0	5	2	5
Beerschot	4	2	0	2	3	4	4
Berchem	4	1	2	1	5	3	4
CS Bruges	4	1	2	1	5	6	4
FC Bruges	4	1	2	1	4	6	4
Waregem	4	0	4	0	4	4	4
Ostende	4	1	1	2	3	3	3
Standard Liege	4	1	1	2	5	7	3
Lokeren	4	1	1	2	6	11	3
Olympic	4	0	3	1	2	3	3
Beringen	4	1	0	3	3	6	2
Diest	4	0	2	2	2	7	2
Winterslag	4	0	1	3	2	8	1

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Liverpool	**6**	**5**	**1**	**0**	**14**	**4**	**11**
Ipswich Town	6	5	0	1	9	3	10
Manchester City	6	4	1	1	11	8	9
Stoke	6	3	2	1	9	4	8
Everton	6	3	2	1	8	6	8
Sheffield United	6	3	2	1	10	8	8
Carlisle	6	3	1	2	6	4	7
Middlesbrough	6	2	3	1	7	5	7
Wolverhampton	6	2	3	1	8	7	7
Newcastle	6	2	2	2	12	12	6
Derby County	6	1	4	1	6	6	6
Chelsea	6	2	2	2	9	11	6
Burnley	6	2	1	3	9	9	5
Leicester	6	1	3	2	8	9	5
Q.P.R.	6	1	3	2	4	5	5
Arsenal	6	2	0	4	6	7	4
Birmingham	6	1	2	3	6	10	4
Luton	6	0	4	2	4	7	4
Leeds	6	1	2	3	4	8	4
Coventry	6	0	3	3	7	13	3
West Ham	6	1	1	4	5	11	3
Tottenham	6	1	0	5	5	10	2

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Bonus Pts
Reims	**7**	**5**	**1**	**1**	**19**	**11**	**1**	**12**
Nimes	7	4	1	2	15	10	2	11
Troyes	7	4	1	2	10	5	1	10
Bordeaux	7	5	0	2	12	8	0	10
Marseille	7	4	1	2	13	8	0	9
Lille	7	4	0	3	12	8	1	9
Bastia	7	4	1	2	9	5	0	9
Nice	7	3	1	3	14	13	1	8
Strasbourg	7	3	2	2	7	11	0	8
St. Etienne	7	3	0	4	10	8	1	7
Lens	7	3	1	3	7	6	0	7
Nantes	7	3	1	3	11	11	0	7
Lyon	7	2	2	3	11	12	1	7
Paris St. G.	7	3	1	3	11	20	0	7
Monaco	7	2	2	3	17	18	0	6
Metz	7	2	2	3	8	11	0	6
Rennes	7	2	2	3	7	11	0	6
Red Star	7	1	2	4	10	16	0	4
Angers	7	1	1	5	8	14	1	4
Sochaux	7	1	0	6	3	8	0	2

LUXEMBOURG

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Red Star M-Bel	**2**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**4**	**1**	**4**
Jeunesse D'Esch	2	2	0	0	3	0	4
Fola Esch	2	2	0	0	5	3	4
Avenir Beggen	2	2	0	0	4	2	4
Red Boys Differ.	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
Etzella	2	1	0	1	2	3	2
Rumelingen	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Alliance	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Aris Bonneweg	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Spora Luxem.	2	0	0	2	3	5	0
Progres Nieder.	2	0	0	2	0	2	0
Union Luxem.	2	0	0	2	0	3	0

DENMARK

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
KB Copenhagen	**15**	**11**	**2**	**2**	**32**	**13**	**24**
B 1903	15	7	4	4	27	18	18
Frem	15	7	2	6	20	24	16
Randers Freja	15	4	7	4	21	18	15
Vejle BK	15	6	3	6	26	26	15
Koge BK	15	5	5	5	24	26	15
Holbaek	15	5	4	6	14	21	14
B 1901	14	4	5	5	24	24	13
Naestved	14	4	4	6	25	25	12
Slagelse	14	5	2	7	20	21	12
Aalborg	15	4	4	7	25	30	12
Hvidovre	14	3	4	7	16	28	10

RUMANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Dinamo Bucharest	**6**	**6**	**0**	**0**	**15**	**4**	**12**
Poli. Timisoara	6	4	1	1	8	2	9
Olimpia	6	4	0	2	8	4	8
Jiul Petrosani	6	3	1	2	13	7	7
Steagul Rosu	6	3	1	2	11	5	7
CSM Resita	6	3	1	2	9	6	7
AS Armata	6	3	1	2	9	12	7
Arges Pitesti	6	3	0	3	10	7	6
Sportul Studen.	6	2	2	2	7	7	6
UT Arad	6	2	2	2	4	4	6
Uni. Craiova	6	2	1	3	9	10	5
Steaua	6	2	1	3	7	10	5
CFR Cluj	6	2	1	3	6	9	5
Uni. Cluj	6	1	3	2	4	7	5
Poli. Iassi	6	2	0	4	6	10	4
Chimia	6	0	4	2	2	9	4
Constanta	6	1	1	4	4	10	3
Galati	6	1	0	5	2	11	2

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
MSV Duisburg	**2**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**6**	**1**	**4**
Hamburg	2	2	0	0	4	1	4
Rot Weiss Essen	2	2	0	0	3	0	4
Fortuna Dussel.	2	1	1	0	7	3	3
Eintracht Frank.	2	1	1	0	4	1	3
Kickers Offen.	2	1	0	1	6	1	2
Eintracht Bruns.	2	1	0	1	5	2	2
Keiserslautern	2	1	0	1	3	2	2
VfL Bochum	2	1	0	1	3	3	2
Tennis Borussia	2	1	0	1	4	5	2
Schalke 04	2	1	0	1	2	3	2
VfB Stuttgart	2	1	0	1	1	4	2
Bayern Munich	2	1	0	1	2	7	2
Hertha Berlin	2	0	1	1	4	5	1
Borussia Mcon.	2	0	1	1	2	4	1
FC Cologne	2	0	0	2	2	4	0
Wuppertal	2	0	0	2	1	6	0
Werder Bremen	2	0	0	2	0	7	0

LEAGUE TABLES

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Ujpest Dozsa	**3**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**9**	**5**	**6**
Honved	3	2	1	0	5	2	5
Bekescsaba	3	2	0	1	8	6	4
Ferencvaros	3	1	2	0	5	3	4
Videoton	3	1	2	0	3	2	4
Zalaegerszeg	3	2	0	1	3	2	4
Diosgyor	3	1	1	1	6	3	3
Tatabanya	3	1	1	1	3	2	3
Pecs	3	1	1	1	2	2	3
Egyetertes	3	1	1	1	2	3	3
Haladas	3	1	1	1	4	7	3
Csepel	3	1	0	2	5	7	2
MTK Budapest	3	1	0	2	3	6	2
Raba ETO	3	0	1	2	4	6	1
Salgotarjan	3	0	1	2	3	5	1
Vasas	3	0	0	3	3	7	0

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Dukla Prague	**6**	**4**	**1**	**1**	**11**	**5**	**9**
Slovan Bratislava	6	4	0	2	13	4	8
Jablonec	6	4	0	2	9	6	8
Brno	6	2	3	1	10	8	7
ZVL Zilina	6	3	1	2	8	7	7
Inter Bratislava	5	3	0	2	10	5	6
VSS Kosice	6	3	0	3	14	10	6
Slavia Prague	6	2	2	2	6	4	6
AC Nitra	6	3	0	3	6	9	6
Teplice	6	3	0	3	8	12	6
Skoda Plzen	6	3	0	3	7	12	6
Trinec	4	2	0	2	2	4	4
Banik Ostrava	5	2	0	3	7	7	4
Spartak Trnava	6	0	3	3	4	12	3
Sparta Prague	4	0	2	2	5	8	2
Bohemians	6	0	2	4	5	12	2

YUGOSLAVIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Vojvodina	**5**	**4**	**1**	**0**	**8**	**1**	**9**
Red Star Bel.	5	3	2	0	12	4	8
Radnicki Nis	5	3	2	0	5	2	8
OFK Belgrade	5	3	1	1	6	1	7
Sloboda	5	2	3	0	8	6	7
Hajduk Split	5	3	0	2	9	8	6
Celik	5	3	0	2	3	3	6
Vardar	5	1	3	1	5	4	5
Zeljeznicar	5	2	0	3	10	8	4
Velez	5	2	0	3	7	6	4
Dinamo	5	1	2	2	6	7	4
Rijeka	5	0	4	1	5	6	4
Olimpija	5	1	2	2	7	9	4
Partizan Bel.	5	1	2	2	4	7	4
Rad. Kragujevac	5	2	0	3	4	8	4
Sarajevo	5	1	1	3	5	9	3
Proleter	5	0	2	3	5	12	2
Bor	5	0	1	4	1	9	1

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Austria/WAC	**5**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**10**	**7**	**7**
Rapid Vienna	5	2	2	1	12	3	6
SW Innsbruck	5	3	0	2	7	5	6
Austria Salzburg	5	2	2	1	3	6	6
Admira/Wacker	5	2	1	2	8	5	5
Austria Klagen.	5	2	1	2	7	7	5
Sturm Graz	5	2	1	2	4	6	5
Linz ASK	5	2	1	2	6	10	5
VOEST Linz	5	1	1	3	4	5	3
SC Eisenstadt	5	0	2	3	4	11	2

NORWAY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Molde	**17**	**11**	**4**	**2**	**34**	**10**	**26**
Viking	17	8	7	2	23	7	23
Brann	17	8	6	3	30	15	22
Stromsgodset	17	9	3	5	31	23	21
Valerengen	17	8	4	5	23	19	20
Start	17	7	5	5	28	19	19
Skeid	17	8	3	6	23	20	19
Rosenborg	17	7	3	7	30	26	17
Hamarkam	17	4	4	9	16	35	12
Mjondalen	17	5	1	11	21	31	11
Sarpsborg	17	4	3	10	18	34	11
Raufoss	17	0	3	14	6	43	3

RUSSIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Dynamo Kiev	**20**	**10**	**8**	**2**	**32**	**12**	**28**
Zenit Leningrad	21	6	13	2	25	25	25
Torpedo Moscow	20	9	6	5	26	18	24
Tschernomorez	20	8	8	4	29	22	24
Spartak Moscow	20	8	7	5	21	18	23
Dynamo Moscow	20	7	8	5	27	21	22
Schacht. Donezk	21	6	10	5	23	22	22
Dnjepropetrovsk	20	7	7	6	18	22	21
Pachtakor Tasch.	20	6	7	7	31	32	19
Ararat Erevan	19	6	6	7	20	18	18
Kairat Alma Ata	19	5	8	6	28	27	18
CSKA Mowcow	20	5	7	8	22	26	17
Dynamo Thilisi	20	4	9	7	16	26	17
Voroschilovgrad	20	4	7	9	22	30	15
Karpaty Lvov	18	2	9	7	13	20	13
Nistru Kischinev	20	3	6	11	25	39	12

BULGARIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Lokomotiv Plovd.	**3**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**5**	**3**	**2**
Dunav Russe	3	2	1	0	3	1	5
Slavia Sofia	3	1	2	0	5	1	4
Trakia Plovdiv	3	2	0	1	8	5	4
Tschernomore	3	1	1	1	6	6	3
Akademik Sofia	3	1	1	1	4	4	3
Sliven	3	0	3	0	3	3	3
Minjor Pernik	3	1	1	1	2	2	3
Levski Spartak	2	1	0	1	4	4	2
Botev Vratza	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
CSKA Sofia	3	1	0	2	6	6	2
Lokomotiv Sofia	3	1	0	2	4	5	2
Etar Tirnovo	3	0	2	1	3	4	2
Spartak Pleven	3	1	0	2	5	7	2
Jantra Gabrovo	3	0	2	1	4	6	2
Pirin Blagojav.	3	1	0	2	3	8	2

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Ajax	**2**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**6**	**1**	**4**
PSV Eindhoven	2	2	0	0	6	3	4
Twente	2	1	1	0	4	0	3
De Graafschap	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
Telstar	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
Feyenoord	2	1	0	1	6	3	2
Amsterdam	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
AZ 67	2	1	0	1	1	1	2
Utrecht	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Den Haag	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
Roda JC	2	1	0	1	2	5	2
Sparta	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Go Ahead	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Wageningen	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Excelsior	2	0	1	1	0	2	1
Haarlem	2	0	1	1	1	5	1
MVV Maastricht	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
NAC Breda	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

SCOTLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Celtic	**2**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**9**	**2**	**4**
St. Johnstone	2	2	0	0	4	1	4
Hibernian	2	2	0	0	5	3	4
Dumbarton	2	1	1	0	3	1	3
Morton	2	1	1	0	3	1	3
Rangers	2	1	1	0	4	3	3
Dundee United	2	1	0	1	5	2	2
Partick Thistle	2	1	0	1	5	3	2
Airdrie	2	1	0	1	3	2	2
Aberdeen	2	1	0	1	3	3	2
Dundee	2	1	0	1	1	1	2
Dunfermline	2	1	0	1	3	4	2
Kilmarnock	2	1	0	1	3	5	2
Ayr United	2	0	1	1	1	4	1
Hearts	2	0	0	2	2	4	0
Clyde	2	0	0	2	2	6	0
Arbroath	2	0	0	2	1	5	0
Motherwell	2	0	0	2	1	8	0

EAST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Magdeburg	**4**	**3**	**1**	**0**	**14**	**8**	**7**
Carl Zeiss Jena	4	3	1	0	7	2	7
Chemie Halle	4	2	2	0	10	3	6
Wismut Aue	4	1	3	0	4	1	5
Vorwaerts F.	4	2	0	2	11	10	4
Dynamo Dresden	4	1	2	1	4	4	4
Rot-Weiss Erfurt	4	2	0	2	5	6	4
Stahl Riesa	4	2	0	2	3	8	4
Vorwaerts Stral.	4	1	1	2	6	6	3
Lokomotiv Leip.	4	1	1	2	7	8	3
Sachsenring	4	1	1	2	4	6	3
Dynamo Berlin	4	0	3	1	4	7	3
Hansa Rostock	4	1	0	3	4	7	2
Karl Marx Stadt	4	0	1	3	4	11	1

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Zurich	**3**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**12**	**2**	**6**
Winterthur	4	3	0	1	15	8	6
Grasshoppers	4	2	2	0	7	4	6
Basel	4	1	3	0	9	4	5
Neuchatel Xamax	4	2	1	1	9	6	5
Luzern	4	2	1	1	9	9	5
Sion	4	1	2	1	5	4	4
Servette	4	2	0	2	7	6	4
Lausanne	4	0	4	0	4	4	4
St. Gallen	4	1	1	2	8	10	3
Lugano	3	1	0	2	3	4	2
Chenois	4	0	2	2	4	16	2
Vevey	4	0	1	3	4	11	1
Young Boys	4	0	1	3	2	10	1

SWEDEN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Malmo FF	**19**	**15**	**2**	**2**	**29**	**11**	**32**
AIK Stockholm	19	11	3	5	30	18	25
Atvidaberg	19	9	4	6	35	24	22
Landskrona	19	9	3	7	34	22	21
Oester	19	7	7	5	28	20	21
GAIS Goteborg	19	8	4	7	30	35	20
Hammarby	19	7	5	7	23	24	19
Halmstad	19	7	5	7	24	28	19
Elfsborg	19	7	3	9	34	31	17
Djurgaarden	19	5	7	7	32	30	17
Oerebro	19	5	7	7	31	34	17
Norrkoping	19	4	6	9	25	45	14
Sirius	19	3	5	11	23	39	11
Brynas	19	2	7	10	21	38	11

Develop skills

Continued from page 27

(Borussia Monchengladbach) and Wiel Coerver (Feyenoord), and no doubt others too who do this. But do the others do it enough? It seems to me that the majority take the easy way out going for insurance against defeat by keeping back five, six or even seven players.

Many good defenders the world over could do with encouragement and help in training learn to cope with one against two situations. If they can do that then one against one is easy. But it must be done in training. This obviously is what coaching football is about, but regretfully too few coaches are good at their job.

Of course it must be recognised that only very good players could do it and without adequate coaching and preparation it would be suicidal. Defenders must learn when to tackle and when to lay off. They must learn how close to mark without 'selling themselves'. They must learn to assess the speed of their opponent (relative to their own) because this determines how far away from their opponent they must be. The defender must learn how to hold off, how to send the man with the ball out to the touchline and away from goal. He must learn how to cut out the pass (with his body) to another man who may be free and un-marked. In the simplest terms, defenders must learn how to defend instead of (as now) simply standing close to their particular opponent and rushing into the tackle everytime he gets the ball.

Finally, and this is most important, they must learn to accept responsibility and they will never do this while they have the comforting knowledge that there is a libero standing close behind, ready to cover up if he makes a mistake.

Defences

There is no valid reason why defences should have a back line of four with a libero behind if they are facing only two or three front players. We know enough about the game now to prepare defenders to look after themselves and if that is done it will release players to go forward into midfield and to play at least three players up in attack full time.

With reliable defenders the tactics could be 2-4-4 or 3-3-4 according to the disposition of the enemy. Of course there will always be the danger that enemy midfield players may break out in strength. Playing to a 4-4-2 system the enemy could suddenly throw two midfield players forward to give four against two but this need not necessarily mean disaster.

If the defensive players can gain time (by jockeying, by feinting to tackle) then time can be gained. In addition, if in training the midfield players are encouraged to look around and pick up opponents who try to break forward then the balance of numbers can be maintained.

As far as the players are concerned it is only a question of the individual ability to control the ball and pass; to position and play for time; to shepherd opponents away from goal and away from their team-mates. It is a battle of wits and skill between one set of players and another. This is how it has always been. What has changed the face of the game has been fear of defeat and the decision by bad managers and coaches to opt for Gatenaccio in one of its various forms instead of coaching their players so that they can cope with any situation.

Swing away

Ajax, Bayern and West Germany started the swing away from catenaccio. Borussia and Feyenoord have shown us the way and at least there is real hope the defensive stranglehold on the game can soon be broken. Football like everything else in life is continually moving. Nothing stands still and the stage is set for a new football revolution.

All we need is a handful of men like Waiswailer who have the understanding, the ability and the belief to make real football pay.

Of course it is not easy. Nothing in life that is really worthwhile is easy. Everything has to be worked for and earned. In football the work is, or should be, done on the training ground. A good coach or manager is one who understands the intricacies of the game and knows how to pass on his experience and knowledge to his players on the training ground. The very best of them also have a deep-rooted belief in real football, in ability over strength and physical qualities. They also have confidence in their own ability to coach and to get the best from their players. They must have absolute belief in themselves and in the players but unfortunately too many managers and coaches are more at home in the present 'physical' game and are content to make it even tougher.

Letter to the editor

ANDREW Dettre's criticism of my article on Polish football (August issue was ill-conceived, whilst his allegations, though open to argument, I reject as wholly inaccurate.

Firstly, I maintain that Polish footballers regard themselves as "basically amateurs", because they do not earn their living from the game. That is why they are allowed to take part in the Olympic Games. The fact that they can supplement their income with relatively modest win bonuses does not, in the eyes of their authorities, classify them as professionals.

Secondly, Andrew's assertion, that in Poland the Workers Party and the Communist Party "are one and the same", is a blatant misrepresentation. In fact, there is in Poland a separate Communist Party, whose membership is substantially lower than that of the ruling Workers Party.

Thirdly, I emphasise that Poland has no Communist traditions at all. The party was officially banned and outlawed there before the war. Most Poles remain, even today, staunch Catholics and are much too nationalistic to ever become wholly devoted to Communism.

Andrew Dettre sits 12,000 miles away in Australia, yet he talks of "personal observation" and appoints himself as a judge and jury on Poland. But his presumptions suggestion that I must be "stupendously ignorant" of Eastern European affairs, merely exposes his own failure to check my background and these facts: I was born and bred in Poland, I speak the language fluently, have relatives there associated with sport, have been there recently, and I know the Polish international footballers and their management personally.

With these credentials, I think I am better qualified to comment on Poland, whether on the political, or the sporting scene, than the obviously mis-informed Andrew Dettre.

Arthur Rotmil,
London, England.

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ITALIAN NEWS

TOUGH TASK LIES AHEAD

by Jack Rollin

ITALY'S forbidding European Championship programme begins at the end of the month with an away fixture against Yugoslavia in Zagreb and a more exacting task for the failed World Cup team cannot be imagined.

And with an extra irony it was, of course, the Yugoslavians who provided Italy with their first success in these championships back in 1968.

Construct

Now the Italians have a new technical commissar in Fulvio Barnardini whose task is not only to construct a new squad from the ashes of the old one, but infuse some life and confidence back into the Italian national team after the disappointments of last summer.

On reflection the worst that happened to Italian football was the 1,000 plus minutes they went up to the World Cup without conceding a goal. Eventually this became the prime object of the game to keep Dino Zoff's charge intact; the rest of it did not matter. And when Emmanuel Sanon eventually shattered the record in the World Cup, there were already ominous signs in other departments that the once invincible were about to disintegrate.

Bernardini's first step has been to assemble a squad of some 31 players including many designated for the Under-23 side for training. Next he ran a practice match in Florence for the "A" and "B" sides which were with second-half substitutes in brackets as follows:

Teams

"A": Zoff (Pulici); Wilson; Bruscolotti, Zecchini, Martini; Benetti, Juliano, Antonioni; Damiani, Chinaglia, D'Amico.

"B": Albertosi (Superchi); Facchetti; Rocca, La Palma, Roggi; Orlandini (Beatrice), Mazzola, Rivera; Caso (Orlandi), Boninsegna, Chiarugi (Braglia).

Within half an hour Roberto Boninsegna had scored twice against Zoff, once from a penalty. In the second half the "B" side equalised with goals from D'Amico and Benetti and then Juliano put them ahead in the 73rd minute. But five minutes before the end Boninsegna completed his hat-trick.

One of the most interesting aspects of the game was that previously discredited players like Mazzola and Rivera were in evidence and that veteran centre forward Boninsegna still appears to be the best centre-forward in the country.

Incredible

It is also rather incredible that six goals were scored in the game when such an event in a League match would almost certainly be followed by a full scale inquiry by one side if not both!

Boninsegna has clearly learned the lesson of patience. Given an unexpected opportunity in the 1970 World Cup when Pietro Anastasi had stomach trouble, he emerged with a fine reputation. Yet his earlier career had been decidedly chequered.

After a season with Internazionale in 1962-63 he left for Prato in the Second Division. Later he went to Potenza and linked up with Varese in 1965. But it was not before he joined Cagliari that he really started to hit the headlines.

He won his first cup seven years ago against Switzerland and in three seasons with Cagliari despite not being able to play too well with Luigi Riva, who virtually plays on his own anyway, he was transferred back to Inter.

Italian goalkeeper Dino Zoff.

Low quality but the results are interesting...

THE new Spanish season got off to its usual super-abundant start in August with a plethora of the four-club international tournaments.

All the prestige tournaments continued—such as the Teresa Herrera—and this year there were new tournaments—including a City of Barcelona contest.

The format, briefly, is like this: the organisers (either the host club or the city itself) invite two top foreign sides, one top Spanish side, and the local club. The semi-finals are played, and then the third place match and the final generally take place as a double-header on the same night.

The tournaments are no use as a pre-season guide to form, but they can throw up some interesting results, even if the quality of football is generally pretty low—even as this summer showed, with clubs such as Bayern Munich taking part.

In aiming to go through a day-by-day review of the tournaments, all I have done is taken the "cream", that is, the tournaments including foreign opposition. There are so many inter-Spanish tournaments that it would need a special edition of WORLD SOCCER merely to list the results!

August 2—Trofeo Arenal Concepcion (La Linea de la Concepcion).

This was the official "off", in a competition being held for the 19th time. To start with it had produced the intriguing pairing of Yugoslav champions Hajduk Split against Valencia, under their new coach, Milovan Ciric, one of Yugoslavia's World Cup supremoes. There was just one goal, scored after nine minutes by World Cup player Ivo Surjak. Valencia were not particularly impressive, their main threat coming from Austrian Kurt Jara. Salif Keita, recovering from injury, came on just before half-time, but even he could do little to worry Rizav Meskovic.

August 3—Trofeo Arenal Concepcion.

Again the semi-final score was 1-0, this time with the Spanish contingent—Betis of Seville — beating Union Espanola, champions of Chile. The Chileans only had Sergio Ahumada of their World Cup men on the pitch, and were further reduced in strength in the second half when referee Antonio Rigo sent off Arias and Palacios, along with Bizcocho (Betis). The only goal came 15 minutes from time, from Eduardo Anzarda, the former River Plate and Real Madrid striker.

August 4—Trofeo Arenal Concepcion.

Anzarda scored another goal in the final, but this time finished on the losing side as Betis went down 2-1 to goals from Jure Jerkovic and Slavissa Zungul. Rigo was again the referee, and again had cause to use the red card—the offender being Hajduk's Rozic in the last minute for lifting his boot too near Cobo's head. In the third place match Valencia beat Union Espanola 4-1 (Quino two, Sergio, Escola; Gnete penalty). Final teams:

Betis: Bassola; Cobo, Sabate, Alabanda (Ubines sub. 57 mins), Biosca; Lopez, Vargas, Cardenosa; Benitez, Rogelio (Aramburu 57), Anzarda (Mamell 74).

Hajduk: Meskovic; Dzoni, Rozic, Salov, Lijketin; Oblak (Mijac 77), Musinic (Rudijic 77); Zungul, Jerkovic, Surjak.

August 7—Tofeo Costa de Valencia (Valencia—organised by Levante).

This was the tournament's third year, and Levante began with a 1-0 win over Marcia. The hosts included Carlos Caszely, the Chilean World Cup man, but the goal came from midfielder Guri. Murcia fielded former Ajax star, Dick van Dijk.

Torneo de Bilbao.

This gave us the first of the pre-season tournaments to have a match decided on penalties, after Athletic Club de Bilbao and Racing White Daring Molenbeek (Brussels) drew 0-0 after extra time. Referee Guruceta had other problems too—Igartua and Polleunis fought for the right to leave after 57 minutes. Iribar was the Bilbao star, and not just for stopping a vital penalty so that Bilbao could win 4-2.

August 8—Trofeo Costa de Valencia.

Murcia beat Elche 2-1 thanks to an own goal from Gonzalez. Godoy got the other, Indio scoring for Elche.

Torned Bilbao.

This saw what local Press men were pleased to call the Little World Cup Final—Bayern Munich against Feyenoord, with six of the World Cup finalists on show. Bayern gave a chance to their £200,000 capture from MSV Duisburg, Klaus Wunder, but left out Muller and Hoeness. Feyenoord boasted new signing Willy Kreuz from Rapid Vienna, and were far and away the better side, though Kristensen only got the winner seven minutes from time. Earlier goals came from Wunder (12 mins), and a replica chip from de Jong (20). Then it was left to Sepp Maier to keep Bayern in the game.

Feyenoord: Treytel; Schneider, Ramlijk, van Daele, Vos; de Jong (Schoenmaker 75), van Hanegem (Jansen h.t.), Olsen; Rossel, Kreuz, Kristensen.

Bayern: Maier; Kapellmann, Beckenbauer, Schwarzenbeck, Hansen (Hadewicz 75); Zobel, Roth, Breitner; Durnberger, Torstensson, Wunder.

Johan Cruyff in action for Barcelona against his former club, Ajax.

Keir Radnedge looks at the pre-season tournaments in Spain

August 9—Torneo de Bilbao.

Feyenoord went on to win, but just as Bilbao needed penalties to beat Racing White so justice was done when the Dutchmen used spot kicks to beat the hosts.

Feyenoord: Treytel; Schneider, van Daele, Jansen (Kreuz 70), Vos (Emersen 34); Olsen, van Hanegem (Ramljak h.t.; van Thile e.t.), de Jong; Ressel, Schoenmaker, Kristensen.

Bilbao: Iribar; Aranguren (Nunez 67), Guisasola, Astrain (Madariaga 116), Zubiaga; Igartua, Villar, Zabalza; Lasa, Carlos (Dani 70), Rojo I.

Guisasola scored the first goal after nine minutes, then fouled van Hanegem five minutes later to see Ressel score following the free kick. Three minutes before half time Lex Schoenmaker—a target for several Spanish clubs—scored, and four minutes after the break Carlos took advantage of a blunder by Eddy Treytel to equalise. Of the nine penalties, only three goals were scored—by Schoenmaker, Villar and Kristensen.

Earlier, in the third place match, Bayern went down 5-1 to Racing White without looking very concerned about the whole affair. Honess scored for the European champions, Teughels (two; one a penalty), Koens (two) and Desanghere scored for the Belgians.

Even Maier slipped below his best this time. But at least he tried to salvage the West Germans' public relations image by staying on to watch the final and proclaiming: "Iribar must be the best goalkeeper in Europe."

Trofeo Costa del Sol (Malaga).

This had earned plenty of bad publicity already, with a cash row over the television rights, and complaints by Malaga about the referees assigned to the tournament by the Spanish FA. When the actual football got under way there was another Spain-Holland clash, with the Spaniards coming off best this time—Malaga beat Spitz Kohn's Twente Enschede 4-1 (Castronovo two, Orozco, Irles; Zuidema).

Trofeo Concepcion Arenal (El Ferrol Del Caudillo).

Coruna beat Burgos 2-1 in the first match of a points-basis tournament, though the losers squandered a host of chances.

August 10—Trofeo Concepcion Arenal.

Coruna ran out winners, beating Wisla Cracow 3-1, even though the Poles had five full internationals including Szymanowski, Musial and Kapka. Kapka scored the Polish goal, the first of the game, but Castro, Pino and Rabadeira soon put that right.

Coruna: Sesone; Richard, Balleta, Zurdo (Bello 46); Luis, Castillo; Pino, Canario, Castro (Juan Carlos 60), Ceijas (Pardo 46), Rabadeira.

Wisla: Adamczyk; Szymanowski I, Maculewicz, Musial; Gazda (Obarzanovky 46), Szymanowski II; Krawczyk (Stolzyk); Kapka, Galej (Gacerk), Kmiecik, Kusto.

Action from a match between Atletico Madrid and Glasgow Rangers.

Costa del Sol.

Penalties again, I'm afraid—though this time it was Derby County who were the winners, beating Granada after the teams had failed to find the net in 120 minutes of football.

Granada: Izcoa; Toni (Sierra h.t.), Fernandez, Castellanos, Falito; Montero, Orueazabal (Chirri h.t.), Grande; Paris (Porta), Duenas, Quiles.

Derby: Boulton; Webster (Newton 77), Daniel, Todd, Nish; Rioch, Powell, Gemmill; Davies, Bourne, Hector (Hinton h.t.).

The penalty sequence was: Hinton scored; Gemmill missed; Quiles missed; Nish scored; Chirri scored; Bourne scored; Porta scored; Rioch scored; Falito scored. Then, on a straight knock-out basis, Davies netted and Fernandez (the scourge of Amancio) shot wide.

August 11—Costa del Sol.

A case of third time lucky for Malaga, beaten finalists for the past two years, but they needed yet another penalty competition to beat Derby. This time there were goals in normal time—Derby getting the first when Deusto (a Barcelona target) watched a Rioch centre go past for Hector to score easily after only six minutes. There were 22,000 in the crowd, and they had to wait until the 58th for Castronovo's equaliser.

In the penalties Castronovo, Davies, Requejo, Bustillo, Nish, Montero and O'Hare all scored; Gemmill saw Deusto save, and Deusto was given the honour of taking the penalty which would have brough victory. Unfortunately he fluffed it, so we were back to the straight sudden-death business. Here Deusto redeemed himself, saving from Hector, while Uriarte settled the affair.

Malaga: Deusto; Irles, Macias, Martinez, Monreal (Montero h.t.); Vilanova, (Miguell 76), Bustillo, Uriarte, Requejo, Castronovo, Orozco (Galindo h.t.).

Derby: Boulton; Webster, Todd, Daniel, Nish; Rioch (Newton h.t.), Powell (O'Hare 62), Gemmill; Bourne (Hinton 75), Davies, Hector.

In the third place match Twente were better value for their 2-1 win over Granada than the 2-1 scoreline suggests (Jeuring, Brinks; Grande). Thomas Parits, the former Eintracht Frankfurt Austrian, again failed to make much impression on the crowd or his new team mates.

Trofeo Ciudad de Barcelona.

This began with Slovan Bratislava against Betis, and again penalties were needed before Slovan made it to the final. Benitez for Betis, Jokl for Slovan got the regulation goals, and Jokl it was who scored Slovan's winning penalty, to help them to a 4-3 spot kick win. The crowd?—2,000.

Trofeo Concepcion Arenal.

Wisla beat Racing del Ferrol (the hosts) 3-0 (Kapka two and Gazda) but Coruna had already earned the trophy.

August 12—Ciudad de Barcelona.

Espanol duly reached the final of their first attempt at a summer tournament by beating Honved 3-1. Kocsis scored for the Hungarians, Jose Maria (from a free kick), Amiano and Jose Maria again for the hosts. Jose Maria's second was created by Espanol's new signing from Ajax, Gerrie Kleton, in a most satisfactory debut.

August 13—The Trofeo Teresa Herrera (Coruna).

This is perhaps the most prestigious of these competitions, and since it's been going nearly 30 years that's hardly surprising. Unfortunately this year's foursomes got off to a bad start with the Barcelona-Penarol clash which saw Hugo Fernadez and Johan Cruyff sent off after a private skirmish in the 36th minute.

Cruyff's patience had clearly been wearing thin towards the end of the World Cup and he had been lucky to avoid

continued overleaf

Spanish tournament round-up

expulsion in an earlier friendly which CFB lost 3-2 in Hamburg. This time, when Fernandez swept him down, Cruyff lashed out and the Portuguese referee Antonio Garrido had no option but to send both men off. The Uruguayans went on to win with a 76th-minute left foot drive by Cruz.

Cuidad de Barcelona.

Espanol, the other Barcelona team, also came a cropper, in the final of their tournament, losing 4-1 against Slovan. Masny opened the scoring with a spectacular solo effort after nine minutes, and Pekarik got another two minutes later. Manolin Cuesta pulled one back after 15 minutes, but Jan Capkovic and Masny again had the match wrapped up before half-time.

Espanol: Borja; Ramos, de Felipe, Ortiz, Aquino; Solana, Molinos, Jose Maria; Romero (Kleton h.t.), Amiano (de Diego 59), Cuesta.
Slovan: Vencel; Pivarnik, Mutkovic, Josef Capkovic, Cioch; Jokl, Medvid, Pekarik, Novotnic; Masny (Harasl in 84), Jan Capkovic (Bizon 78). Att: 30,000.

In the third place match Betisbeatd Honved 2-1 (Anzarda and Rogelio; Pal).

August 14 — Principe de Espana (Santander).

Penalties again, this time Dynamo Moscow being the unlikely winners over Sporting Gijon after a goal-less 120 minutes. The worst feature of the match was the refereeing of Carreno (one of the men Malaga objected to for the Costa del Sol), who gave Sporting more leeway than even their own fans were happy about. Yevreschukin, Petruchin, Macholikov, and Bagalsec scored from the spot for Dynamo; Pinel and Valdes for Sporting.

Teresa Herra (Corona).

History repeated itself for poor Atletico Madrid—and even Scots might feel just a little sympathy. Leading 1-0 after 40 minutes thanks to Ruben Ayala against Borussia Moenchengladbach, Atletico were pegged back when Jupp Heynckes "did a Schwarzenbeck" and headed in Rainer Bonhof's corner in the last minute. There was no score in extra time and Borussia won 4-3 on penalties.

August 15—Teresa Herrera.

Penarol took the trophy which Atletico won last year, beating Borussia 3-2 in the final before 35,000. Extra time was called for yet again, but this time Fernando Morena settled matters short of more penalties. After a low key opening the Germans dominated the first hour, taking a 2-0 lead through Heynckes. Quevedo hit back 63rd and 81st) and Morena added the winner four minutes into extra time.

Borussia: Kleff; Vogts, Klinkhammer, Wittkamp; Bonhof, Stielicke; Simonsen, Koeppel (Rosnel 70), Hilkes, Koestner, Heynckes.
Penarol: Corbo; Sandoval, Garcia, Gonzalez, Nelson, Zoryez; Cruz (Sampelli 80), Jimenez (Unamuc n.t.), Morena, Silva, Quevedo.

Third place went to a Cruyff-less CFB, beating Atletico on penalties(!) after a 90-minute 2-2 draw. Thus Atletico lost their title without losing a match. Funny game, football.

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Torneo de Ferias (Ciudad Real).

Wisla Cracow reached the final with a 5-2 victory over local Manchego, Kusto and Gazda each scored two.

Trofeo Teide (Santa Cruz de Tenerife).

Tatabanya reached this final, goals by Negyi, Komuvires and Halayi being far too much for local Orotavo.

Trofeo Principe de Espana.

This went to Moscow Dynamo, beating Racing Santander 3-1 (Yevreschukim, Pavlenko, Buldachin; Rivero).

Racing: Santamaria; Espildora, Camus, Portu; Diaz, Sabti; Sebas, Sanzogni (Lebrans h.t.), Aitor Aguirre (Rivero 63), Pedro Amado, Zuviria.
Dynamo: Pilgui; Bassalem, Nikulin, Zikov; Dolbonosov, Pudnhev; Buldachin, Gabrilov, Pavlenko, Machovikov, Yevreschukin.

Union Espanola de Chile took third place, beating Sporting of Gijon 3-1.

August 16. Trofeo Teide.

Tenerife reached the final, beating local Real Union 10-3.

Trofeo Cuidad de Vigo.

Local Celta de Vigo came unstuck in a three-sided points contest, going down 3-2 to Honved (Kosis two, Navarro own goal; Doblas, Castro pen).

August 17—Trofeo Colombino (Huelva).

Feyenoord and Bayern were both in action again here, and though they didn't face each other, as before it was Feyenoord who reached the final and Bayern who missed out. The Dutchman beat Betis 3-2 in their semi final while Ujpest Dozsa deservedly beat Bayern on penalties after they had drawn 2-2 after extra time.

Ciudad de Vigo.

Honved drew 2-2 with 1st FC Koln in an excellent game played before a sadly sparse and apathetic crowd. Koesis and Lohr shared the goals.

Trofeo Teide.

Orotavo finished third, beating Real Union 4-0.

August 18—Trofeo Colombino.

Feyenoord took their second trophy of the summer, but only after a sad shambles of a clash with Ujpest. The Dutch champions and UEFA Cup holders took the lead through Theo de Jong after 50 minutes, but the game disintegrated thereafter, with the expulsions of Horvath, Schoenmaker and Ramljak by referee Rigo (Some summer he had!). Despite all, Feyenoord hung on. But the headlines of the night were reserved for the third place match, which brough a 5-0 thrashing for Bayern Munich at the hands of Betis. Anzarda scored a hat-trick, Alabanda and Cardenosa got the others. Bayern had 20-year-old Hugo Robl in goal, but Beckenbauer, Schwarzenbeck, Honess, Muller and Co were all there. Somehow I think the West Germans will be lucky to get any invites back next year . . .

Final teams:

Feyenoord: Treytel (Reitsma h.t.); Schneider, van Daele, Ramljak, Vos; Olsen, de Jong, Jansen; Resel, Schoenmaker, Kristensen.
Ujpest: Szigeti; Koller, Harsanyi, Dunai III, Juhasz; Horvath, Toth, Nagy; Fazekas, Bene, Fekete.

Trofeo Teide.

Surprise 4-2 win here for Tenerife, beating Hungary's Tatabanya to take the trophy on home ground (Perrone two, Caamano, Justo Gilberto; Salloi, Ko-Muvires).

Tenerife: Dominguez; Lemes, Molina, Kraus; Mauro, Pepito; Caamano (Gilberto II), Justo Gilberto, Medina, Jorge (Juan Miguel), Perrone.
Tatabanya: Brunyi (Dombai); Szabo, Kovacs, Saczko; Horvath, Csapo (Aranyi); Knapik, Salloi, Halacs, Komuvires, Toth.

Trofeo Ciudad de Vigo.

Celta beat Koln 4-3 in the third game of this three-side tournament, but Honved ran out winners on a points basis.

August 20—Trofeo Juan Gamper (Barcelona).

This was the tournament organised regularly now by CF Barcelona and bearing their name of their Swiss founder, Hans (in Spanish, Juan) Gamper. It brought together the most intriguing clash of the month—Barcelona (plus Cruyff and Neeskens) against Ajax, and 85,000 fans turned out to see the action. In the end it was CFB who walked off with a 3-0 win. Marcial (two) and Asensi got the goals, Asensi's being a mile offside. Cruyff and Neeskens were both somewhat subdued, but it was their combination from a free kick which brought Marcial his and CFB's second goal.

Barcelona: Mora; Rifé, Torres, Costas, de la Cruz; Marcial, Claros, Neeskens; Cruyff, Asensi, Sotil.
Ajax: Schryvers; Haan; Suurbier, Dundaba, Krol; van Santen, A. Muhren, G. Muhren; Rep, Geels, Keizer (Steffenhagen 61).

In the other semi-final Rangers of Glasgow beat Athletic Bilbao 1-0, thanks to a 42-minute goal from Jardine. Rangers' participation in the tournament had been a subject for some controversy, many people not having happy memories of the mayhem which followed the Cup-winners' Cup final against Dynamo Moscow. Still, everything went off peacefully this time.

Rangers: Kennedy; Jardine, Miller, Forsyth, Jackson, Johnstone, McLean, Denny, Young, Fyfe, Scott.
Bilbao: Iribar; Arangurea (Nunez 62), Zubiaga, Guisasola (Escalza 60); Astrain, Zabalza; Lasa, Agartua, Carlos, Villar, Rojo I.

August 21—Trofeo Juan Gamper.

Rangers were in no danger of being unpopular tonight either, being emphatically beaten 4-1 by CFB in the final. Marcial scored another two, Cruyff and Miller with an own goal doing the rest of the damage. Yet it had been Rangers who took the lead through Fyfe after only 16 minutes. The Scots weren't given much help by World Cup referee Sanchez Ibanez. Cruyff, Marcial and the Peruvian Hugo "Cholo" Sotil—who still doesn't know whether he is coming or going—were CFB's stars.

CFB kept the team which won the semi-final, using Juan Carlos and Perez as late substitutes for Asensi and Cruyff. Rangers had Parlane in for Denny. Ajax, to complete what must have been an appallingly humiliating trip, finished last, losing the third place match 1-0 to Bilbao, despite bringing back Zoltan Varga and switching Aric Haan forward into midfield.

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